THE
MONTHLY REVIEW,
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ART. I. *Characters of the late Charles James Fox,* selected and in part written, by Philopatris Varvicensis. 2 Vols. 8vo. 1l. Boards. Mawman, 1809.

GENERAL report and internal evidence equally concur in assigning to the pen of the Reverend Dr. Parr the volumes before us; and the public will therefore be prepared to hear that they form a valuable memorial of the illustrious man to whose fame they are consecrated, while they reflect high honour on the learning and the eloquence, the principles and the feelings, of the distinguished scholar by whom they are compiled. The work appears to be designed as a letter to Mr. Coke of Norfolk; who will probably always consider it as his noblest praise to have deserved the title here conferred on him, of 'the personal and political friend of the late Charles James Fox.' By some admirers of our departed statesman, we learn, it was thought that a collection of the best written characters which had been drawn of him soon after his death would not be unacceptable to the public; and accordingly the newspapers of the day, which, in announcing his dissolution, preserved some record of the events of his life, together with a sketch of the features of his mind, have been laid under contribution for nearly twenty articles on this interesting subject. We confess that we have been more entertained by them than we could have expected; and we regard them as honourable to the talents, and, with little exception, to the candour and the feelings of the several writers. Though the rapid demands of a diurnal press exclude the possibility of finished composition, and give a certain toleration to *verbiage*, we here seldom encounter affectation, while inaccuracy is still more rare; and though a variety of political opinions appears among these characters, (which are selected with perfect impartiality,) we remark an extraordinary abstinence from every thing offensive and illiberal,—if we exclude the unfortunate specimen of provincial ignorance and vulgarity, which occurs at the fortieth page.

The extracts from newspapers are followed by similar essays more carefully composed, and inserted in Reviews, Magazines, and even in separate pamphlets, poems, and sermons. They possess various degrees of merit: but the most useful among them, both as a summary of facts and a view of Mr. Fox's character, is drawn from the Universal Magazine for March and April 1805, the year preceding his death. The discourse of Mr. Belsham is full of animation and discernment; and that of Dr. Symmons will hardly be perused without exciting strong sympathy with the warm and elevated sensibility of the preacher. A masterly *éloge* is ascribed to Sir James Mackintosh; who appears, however, to the Editor to have adopted from Mr. Burke too low a tone of praise, when he designates Mr. Fox as having "become, by slow degrees, the most brilliant and accomplished *debater* the world ever saw." It is here shewn, very much at large, that he deserved a more exalted title; and while that which he actually receives is proved to be both invidious and inappropriate, we think that the epithets of *indefinite* and *unmeaning* might have been affixed to it with equal justice. We may compare him as an *orator* with the great men of antiquity, whose orations have descended to us: but of their brilliancy, their skill, their promptitude, their accomplishments, as *debaters*, we have no materials that enable us to form an opinion.

After these selected characters, the first volume is closed by a very elaborate picture drawn by the editor himself; which unites, to the ample homage of enthusiastic admiration, great diligence in weighing, and much judgment in duly appreciating, the qualities of the friend whom it deplores. Not only 'his attainments as a scholar, his powers as a public speaker, and his merits as a statesman,' are displayed in broad daylight, but his temper and conversation, his private pursuits, and his social habits, assume their share in the attractive and finely-coloured portrait. Let us, however, frankly acknowlege that we experience some disappointment with respect to details, which the intimacy of Dr. Parr with his hero might surely have furnished: too much is said in general terms, and too little reference is made to actual occurrences; or, to pursue our former metaphor, we are dazzled with the glare of rich colouring, instead of being delighted with the more difficult excellence of faithful drawing. Anecdotes of Mr. Fox's conversation, like those that have been reported of Dr. Johnson, full of pointed and ambitious phrases, he had too correct and too gentlemanly a taste frequently to supply: but some more distinct idea might easily have been conveyed of his prevailing style in society; and his letters would have been most eagerly perused

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by thousands of his countrymen, who, though his name, his political conduct, and his parliamentary speeches, are "familiar in their mouths as household words," have still much to learn respecting the ordinary intercourse of his life with those who were honoured by his friendship.

The exordium of this panegyric will qualify our readers to form a fair opinion of its style, as well as a compendious notion of its entire contents :

'I have long been anxious to convey to you my condolence on the death of our inestimable friend Mr. Fox. But I have been hitherto restrained by the dread of appearing to you obtrusive, in the fresh hour of your affliction; and by a consciousness of my own inability to administer much to your comfort. Such is the wise constitution of our nature, that in certain situations, and for a certain time, it is better for us to follow the instinctive impulses of our feelings, than to wait for the slow and calm direction of our reason. Grief under such circumstances is impatient of the slightest interruption to that series of ideas which is most congenial to itself; and we then reject the very same topics of consolation which we afterwards cherish and approve, when they occur to us spontaneously, or when flowing from those around us, they fall in with other trains of thinking which time has silently introduced into our bosoms.

'Well knowing the poignant anguish occasioned by the loss of those whom we have been accustomed to regard with affection, I cannot but take a most lively share in your distress, heightened, as I am aware it must be, by the continual privation of the delight you formerly experienced, in the conversation of a chearful, sagacious, and most faithful friend. Pardon me, however, for expressing my hope that you are beginning to find some consolation, as I do, in reflecting upon the numerous and matchless excellencies of one whom England ought to consider as its best guardian, and the world as its most noble ornament. If the sublimity of his genius, the depth and variety of his knowledge, the solidity of his judgment, the gentleness of his private and the moderation of his public conduct, offer themselves to your mind, the sense you entertain of all his amiable and all his venerable qualities, accompanied perhaps by transient and involuntary illusions of his momentary presence among us, may suspend or mitigate your sorrow.

'The pleasure I have myself had, though sometimes alloyed by melancholy, in looking back upon the many hours which I have passed in Mr. Fox's company, naturally leads me to consider your lot as highly fortunate, in having for so many years diligently cultivated, and uninterruptedly enjoyed the confidence of so valuable a man, and in the many endearing recollections which your long and unreserved habits of intimacy with him cannot fail to supply. If you had been called upon to select a friend from the whole human race, where could you have found one endowed as he was with the guileless playfulness of a child, and the most correct and comprehensive knowledge of the world; or distinguished, as he was, by an elegant taste in the dead and living languages, by a thorough acquaintance with the most

important events of past and present times, by a profound skill in the history, and by a well-founded and well-directed reverence for the constitution of his country, and by the keenest penetration into all the nearer and all the remoter consequences of public measures? Where could you have found a statesman so qualified by the impartiality of his spirit, and the extent of his views, to fix upon right measures for the accomplishment of right ends: to separate appearances from realities in the political horizon: to reason down local and temporary prejudices into subjection to the eternal laws of justice, and to infuse confidence into the minds of enlightened foreigners, with whom he was officially to discuss the intricate and jarring claims of powerful and jealous nations? Where could you have found an orator gifted with properties of eloquence so many and so great, always exciting attention by his ardour and rewarding it by his good sense—always adapting his matter to the subject, and his diction to the matter—never misrepresenting where he undertook only to confute, nor insulting because he had vanquished—instructive without a wish to deceive, and persuasive without an attempt to domineer—manfully disdaining to seize the incidental and subordinate advantages of controversy, and inflexibly intent upon developing the substantial and specific merits of the cause in which he was engaged—eager for victory only as the prize of truth, holding up the most abstruse and uncommon principles in the most glowing colours, and dignifying the most common by new combinations—at one moment incorporating wit with argument, and at the next ascending from historical details to philosophical generalization—irresistible from effort, captivating without it, and by turns concise and copious, easy and energetic, familiar and sublime.'

In the course of this treatise, Dr. Parr animadverts, we think with just severity, on the harsh and unfeeling conduct of Mr. Burke towards one whom he described as "a man born to be loved." His treacherous accusations of the honour of such a man, clandestinely conveyed to the friends of both in the first instance, and afterward avowed in the face of the public, will ever be remembered to his shame. On the subject of the violent attack directed by him against the Duke of Bedford, in which the grand principles, to the defence of which he had been eager to sacrifice Mr. Fox's friendship, were in their turn sacrificed to the bitterness of personal animosity, Dr. Parr hesitates (Vol. I. p. 284.) to concur entirely with the sentiments expressed in the Monthly Review*, while he applauds the composition of the critique in terms the most flattering. His praise we estimate highly: but he will permit us still to maintain the opinion there avowed in language which appears to us defensible in its fullest extent. At this distance of time, however, and on a subject that has

* See the Monthly Review for March 1796, p. 314. (misquoted by Dr. Parr, in Vol. ii. p. 564. as the Number for *May*)

passed

passed away, it would hardly be fair to our readers in general, to enter into a long discussion with one from whom we have seldom occasion to dissent; and who, after having served the cause of *political truth* in his censure of Mr. Burke's public conduct, has fought the battle of *literary truth* in his bold strictures on a style of all others the most easy of imitation, and the most dangerous as a model.

The topic introduced at p. 219, and treated at some length in that and the following pages, appears to us unnecessary to the work, and therefore in our opinion would better have been omitted. We are the more surprized at these paragraphs, when we compare them with the note in which great pains are employed to rescue Mr. Fox from the charge of expressing any religious doubts in his History. We perfectly agree with the author in condemning all officious 'scrutiny into the origin and extent of speculative scruples, which the persons, who unhappily and it may be unavoidably experience them, are too discreet to proclaim, and too decorous to disseminate.' All that can be collected, from the vague statement before us, is that Mr. Fox entertained some theological doubts: but that of their nature and extent his modesty, his discretion, his distrust of his own judgement, and his deference for the sincere conviction of others, left even his nearest friends in total ignorance. Perhaps, it would have been the duty of a friend, if he could not be perfectly explicit, to observe a total silence on the subject. It is humiliating to the pride of human intellect to acknowlege how powerful is the influence of accidental circumstances and uncontroulable associations, in swaying, and even in forming the decisions of the greatest minds on the most important subjects; and those who remember Lord Chesterfield's character of the first Lord Holland, as well as the early admission of Lord H.'s son to the society of men of rank on the continent, will scarcely deny that, in this respect, Mr. Fox was peculiarly unfortunate. Yet bigots on the one hand, and infidels on the other, will be ready to blacken his memory, or to rest on his authority, for opinions which were early and unconsciously adopted; and which were retained perhaps for no other reason than that, in the course of a most active life, he never found an opportunity of submitting them to the test of a severe investigation.

Dr. Parr's second volume is entirely occupied by notes, all containing more or less of instruction, but some of them demanding peculiar attention. That which is devoted to a consideration of the present state of our criminal code, (p. 321,) though from its length and importance it ought rather to have formed a distinct volume, is not less remarkable for the valu-

able original observations with which it abounds, than for a judicious resort to the best authorities in support of its positions. We have perused it with very high satisfaction; with feelings of surprize at Dr. Parr's proficiency in a branch of learning to which few scholars have directed their studies; and with a sincere wish that the great cause of humanity, for which he appears as a most able and strenuous advocate, may be indebted to him for reception among the rulers of the earth. We lament our inability to present the reader with more than a single extract:

'I cannot dissemble from you, that my humanity shudders, and my sense of justice recoils at the recollection of certain "things as they are," in a country which boasts of its freedom, its generosity, and its unrivalled progress in useful knowlege. If those boasts be, as I think they are, well-founded, the lenient and equitable expedients for which many wise and good men * have pleaded again and again, might be proposed with the greater safety, and the surer result. If that knowledge be real, how can it be better employed than in teaching men to view the physical evil of punishment, not less than the physical evil of crimes, as a real deduction from the general stock of happiness—in calculating, so far as our limited insight into motives will permit us, the share that is to be assigned to infirmity, as well as malignity, in unlawful actions—in substituting, as other nations have done successfully, the restraints of shame for the dread of death—in presenting to common minds, distinctly and forcibly, the gradations of guilt by correspondent gradations of rigour—and in lessening the temptations to greater offences, when the commission of them seems to facilitate escape from *equal* penalties denounced against the less? If the *summum jus* be *summa injuria* in the transactions of individuals, who are condemned for yielding to the suggestions of the selfish and malignant passions, is it not possible that a state, armed as it ought to be with irresistible power, and governed, as the judicial concerns of it must be, by frail and fallible men, may sometimes step beyond the bounds of *real* necessity in the sanctions it affixes even to the most wholesome laws? May not the rulers of it be now and then actuated by the secret love of that power, which is more precious as it is more exempt from controul, and which, as self-delusion is always ready to suggest to the possessor, is most salutary, when it is most extensive? May not the very absence of corruption and venality in the administration of public justice decoy men into a delusive sort of self-complacency, and may not the very consciousness of impartiality in adherence to a known and fixed rule make them insensible, or at least inattentive, to the suggestions of compassion?

'When the philosophy of Ethics has been called down, as was said of the *Socratici sermones*, from the sky to the earth—when the principles of it, in the language of Bacon, "have been brought home to men's business and men's bosoms"—when the rugged and austere

'* Viz. Sir Thomas More, Erasmus, Johnson, Beccaria, Eden, Dagge, Voltaire, &c.'

rules

rules of law in civil questions have been occasionally mitigated by corrective maxims drawn from equity—when our prisons by their goodly appearance display the munificence, if not the humanity of the country—when the miseries of the persons confined in them are in many respects alleviated, and when the ruthless and "steeled jailor is converted into a gentle provost, the friend of men"—why do persons who upon *other* occasions shrink from palpable injustice and palpable cruelty—why, let me ask, in the exercise of their good sense and their benevolence for the welfare of their countrymen, do they stop short at the very point where life is to be taken away?'

These and other observations, which occur in this most solemn subject, are not to be answered by the flippant and unfeeling remark that "death is an *economical* punishment;" and when it is admitted that executions should be made more awful to the spectators, it necessarily follows that they should be rarely exhibited.—Another principal point, laboured in this note, is the duty of promulgating laws to those whose lives and liberties depend on them; for, while it is a maxim of English jurisprudence that all men are presumed to know the law, (or, at least, as Mr. Bentham expresses it, all *except jurymen*,) the fact is that, of the multitudes who suffer death, few have had an opportunity of being aware that they had incurred the penalty. The existence of this great evil has, however, been boldly denied; and it is asserted that every man, who is likely to be affected by an Act of Parliament, makes it his business to understand it:—a position, which may be true with respect to those who form a regular profession of theft or peculation, but which is obviously inapplicable to the young, the ignorant, and the inexperienced,—to all whom society is equally bound by duty and by interest to preserve from vicious habits and dangerous excesses.

Another of the notes, to which we recur with satisfaction, is that in which the posthumous work of our great statesman is freely reviewed; since, though 'the opinions' of the learned annotator have been, in his own language, 'largely anticipated, luminously expressed, and judiciously defended' by professional critics*, he is tempted to discuss a great variety of collateral topics at greater length than is consistent with the limits of any periodical journal. The style of Mr. Fox's History, to which we did not hesitate to state our objections, is here examined with severity; and an opinion is expressed, in opposition to that of Lord Holland, that many of the

* Here again Dr. Parr refers to the Monthly Review: but his *laudatory* terms permit us merely thus to advert to his application of them, as far as we are concerned.

reprehensible phrases, now found in that unfinished composition, would certainly have been expunged on deliberation. To the reflections and observations scattered throughout the narrative, perfect justice is rendered ; and the following note appears to us so correct and interesting, that we cannot refrain from inserting it :

'In the pathetic close of the narrative which Mr. Fox has given us of Argyle's death, there are certain φωνᾶντα συνετοῖσι which may lead us to suspect that he, at the moment, had in view the possibility of a similar fate to himself, if he ever should be placed in similar circumstances. Reflection, habit, principle, sensibility, all the pure and all the noble qualities of nature, acted in mild and sweet concert upon the mind of the writer, and they awake in the reader every tender and every generous sympathy of pity for ideal suffering, and reverence for real virtue. Of the interest created in men of genius by these imaginary situations, when self-love and self-respect recommend themselves by attendant simplicity and sincerity, we have a striking instance in a very eloquent passage, where Bishop Warburton describes Mr Bayle as "a man who, to the utmost strength and clearness of reasoning, has added all the liveliness and delicacy of wit, and who, pervading human nature at ease, struck into the province of paradox, as an exercise for the unwearied vigour of his mind." He who thus writes of other men must have experienced in himself something similar to that property which he describes. When the pen of Warburton was employed upon a passage, where so much originality is united with such vigour in the conception, and so much ease with such dignity in the language, a *vox intus* must have whispered to him again and again

"Mutato nomine de *me*
Fabula narratur."

The diversified series of observations, discussions, facts, and anecdotes, which have been suggested to Dr. Parr by the fruitful subject of this important History, will lead the reader pleasantly and easily to a great portion of valuable instruction; and the progress of opinions relating to the Catholics is traced, in particular, with spirit and with accuracy. We think, however, that the Doctor forgot his promise not 'to chase with criticism *quod quisque unquam vel contemptissimorum hominum dixerit*,' when he undertook a serious refutation of a charge preferred against Mr. Fox for approving the principle of assassination, and hunted down the miserable insinuation that this approval was "first avowed after his honourable and distinguished reception at the Thuilleries." Mr. Fox himself would only have blushed for a press that could give vent to so low a scandal ; and we should have been better pleased if his friend and panegyrist had passed it over in dignified silence, instead of giving importance to it by his animadversion.

In the course of this note, we cannot avoid perceiving that the author appears to have adopted, to a certain extent, the historic doubts of Horace Walpole. He describes Richard Duke of York, the brother of Edward the Fifth, as one who 'was perhaps immolated by' Henry the Seventh,—thus following neither the hypothesis of Walpole nor that of Laing, (see the Appendix to the last volume of Henry's History of England,) nor much relieving the character of Richard the Third: but in conformity with the narrative set forth in Perkin Warbeck's proclamation, the probability of which has always appeared to us intitled to more attention than it has yet received.

Throughout the work before us, we find the usual propensity of the learned author to classical quotations and to liberal panegyric; and the profuseness with which the latter is dealt out sometimes gives a character of irony to a grave passage. Thus, in comparing the Grenville administration with that which succeeded, he says that he cannot attribute to the former the possession of "all the talents," since Lord Harrowby, the Earl of Chatham, and Mr. Canning were not included in it; and the last mentioned gentleman is also complimented for a degree of *good humour* incompatible with *virulence!*—The portrait (p. 582.) of the fretful and petulant antagonist, whose hostility harassed and degraded the declining years of Mr. Fox, is too "inveterate a likeness" to be mistaken; though the original should be metamorphosed, in the sight of a wondering nation, from a second-rate barrister to a first lord of the treasury.

Some mistakes occur in these volumes, but Dr. Parr has anticipated our intended correction of most of them. He has handsomely retracted, in the Gentleman's Magazine for September 1809, p. 799, (and subsequently in other Magazines,) the error committed in attributing to Mr. Burton, the puisne judge of Chester, on newspaper authority, a speech which that respectable magistrate never delivered. He also discovered, before his volumes were published, that the proposed alteration in the Scottish law of infanticide was a measure of lenity, not of additional rigor: but he appears to be still unapprized that the severe law of James the First is repealed in England, and that a milder system now prevails, under an Act passed in the forty-third year of the present reign, commonly called Lord Ellenborough's Act, from which the most beneficial consequences have resulted. Is it correctly stated at p. 378. that 'if death be inflicted, the sovereign is not permitted in ordinary cases to mitigate the pains of the sufferer?' We believe that it is not.

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We conclude this article by expressing our wish that every great and good man may, in proportion to his talents and his virtues, find as warm an admirer and as able and disinterested a panegyrist, as the first statesman of our own times has here obtained in the first scholar living. The incentives to honourable conduct in men of exalted station cannot be too numerous; and the praise bestowed on unaffected virtue holds forth a motive and an example to the remotest generations.

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ART. II. *Spanish Heroism;* or, the Battle of Roncesvalles. A Metrical Romance, in Five Cantos. By John Belfour, Esq., Author of "Music*," a Didactic Poem, &c. &c. Royal 8vo. 10s. 6d. Boards. Vernor and Hood. 1809.

A POET, of confessedly great talents, has in these days revived among us the race of Minstrels, or rather has become the founder of the New Academy of Metrical Romance. That he has greatly improved the style of his rude originals; that he excels in animated description, and in the glowing representation of chivalrous times and manners;—nay more—that he abounds (to borrow the expressive language of Johnson) "in images which find a mirror in every mind, and in sentiments to which every bosom returns an echo;" we should be insensible indeed to deny. Yet, having allowed him this high and merited praise, we should be equally wanting in critical discrimination, if we failed to remark his gross incorrectness of expression, his barbarous mixture of antient with modern phraseology, his insufferable licence in violating every law of rhythm and measure, his utter inattention (except in the more interesting parts of his subject) to harmonious pause and cadence, and, above all, his childish introduction of spirits without dignity,—mere nursery goblins,—and of heroes without honesty, perfect Old Bailey-practitioners. He bears, too, on his shoulders the heaviest sin of misapplied genius and perverted taste, inasmuch as he has been the faulty model of a

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* We should apologize for our delay in not having noticed Mr. Belfour's poem on Music, and for the anachronism in reviewing first the volume which has been so long posterior in its appearance: but the subject of the present work is of a more temporary nature; and if the incidental circumstances, which have occurred to cause our apparent neglect of the former, do not operate against the latter, we are unwilling to repeat the fault when we cannot plead a similar excuse.

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thousand imitators; who, without any of his acknowleged powers, conceive that they are following in the path of a nobler original than classical antiquity can afford them; that they have broken the school-boy trammels in which their fathers were confined by their imitation of Homer and Virgil; and that, by a wild irregularity of verse, and a few cant phrases of heraldry and architecture, they are establishing for themselves the character of patent improved Troubadours of the nineteenth century, whose medicines are sold by every principal tradesman in town and country, made up according to the receipt of the inventor at Edinburgh.

These observations, which are every day more forcibly suggested to our minds, may offend the devoted panegyrists of even the faults of Genius: but, if strenuously and repeatedly urged, they cannot fail to convince the more reflecting part of our readers that they are founded in truth.—That with the beauties of the writer to whom we allude are intermixed whole pages of dry antiquarian detail; and that the most patient listener is sick of seneschal, squire, and sewer, of linstock, jack, and actor; of moss-trooper, and hackbutteer, and his bandelier; of fleur-de-lys and of quatrefeuille; that he is sick, we say, of these things, who will deny or who will wonder?

—"*Quis tam Lucilî fautor ineptè est*
Ut non hoc fateatur?
Nempè incomposito dixi pede currere versus
Lucilî."

But that we have sympathized with the last and noblest of the Minstrels, that

—"We have listened and stood still
As it came softened up the hill,
And deemed it the lament of men
Who languished for their native glen,"—

that we have felt the sweetness of these numbers, and of many other similar passages in the latter, and of still more in the former of these poems, it were injustice to ourselves not to record.—*O si sic omnia!* have we exclaimed with heart-felt admiration and regret;—had this been the case, had fewer faults debased this original and lofty train, then might we have exultingly added—

"*Cedite Romani scriptores, cedite Graii!*
Altior en! nostræ Musa Caledoniæ."

Till this glory shall be ours, let not our poets disdain to follow those antient leaders who conducted Dryden and Pope to the temple of fame. Let them not fear that their own genius, *transcendent*

cendent as it may be, will be cramped by the cultivation of their taste; and let them remember that the just and the natural are the foundation of the true pathetic, and the true sublime.

The volume before us is formed exactly on the model of the poems which we have been criticizing; and this circumstance will not only constitute our excuse for the preliminary remarks into which we have been led, but will shew the necessity of our prefacing those which we have to offer on Mr. Belfour, by some notice of his original. He does not indeed seem disposed to allow the copy to be so universal and so evident as we contend it is; for, in the notes to canto the third, he confesses, with an apparent consciousness of the inadequacy of his avowal, that 'some incidents in two of the stanzas of this canto are borrowed from Walter Scott.' Now really, when a whole poem, in point of style and manner, is a simple *fac simile* of another, to acknowlege that two stanzas of it are borrowed is a work of very superfluous candour. Let us, however, proceed to shew the justice of our observations from the author's own mouth:—but first we must present our readers with some account of the battle of Roncesvalles, as it is here represented, in a shape at least new to poetical description.

After having remarked that the former poets, who have undertaken this subject, have proceeded mostly on the authority of the French chronicles, Mr. Belfour thus details his own plan, which is modelled on the accounts of the Spanish historians:

'Charlemagne, Emperor of France, having rendered himself illustrious by his victories, Alphonso the Chaste, King of Leon and the Asturias, being without legitimate issue, and perceiving the greater part of Spain in the possession of the Saracens, sent, secretly, a messenger to the Gallic monarch, promising, upon his demise, to invest him with the sovereignty of his kingdom, if he would march his forces into the peninsula, and assist him in the expulsion of the Moors. This Charlemagne readily assented to; and crossing, in person, the Pyrenees with his peers, and a considerable army, marched into Navarre, attacked the Moors, possessed himself of Pampeluna, and drove them completely out of that province.

'This compact being communicated to the nobles and principal chieftains of Alphonso, they refused to concur in his views; and, supported by Bernardo del Carpio, determined to resist the progress of Charlemagne, should he attempt to enforce his right to the throne.

'Charles, apprized of the change in the sentiments of Alphonso, and incensed at the patriotic ardour of the nobility, who had sworn to preserve their liberties or perish; ordered a prodigious force to march into Spain, and to encamp on the plain of Roncesvalles: whither he resolved to move from Pampeluna with the troops already

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in the country, to penetrate, in person, into Leon, and dethrone the Spanish prince.

'In the mean time, Alphonso, aware of his intentions, aided by his nobles, and, in a particular manner, by his kinsman, Bernardo del Carpio, called the country to arms; and assembling a numerous army from the several provinces subject to his dominion, assisted by Rodrigo, Count of Castile, and the Saracen prince, Marsilius, King of Aragon, (whom Charlemagne had imperiously called upon to pay tribute,) marched against the invader, whom he attacked on the plain of Roncesvalles; and after a most sanguinary conflict, in which nearly the whole of Charlemagne's army fell, with his peers and attendants, obtained a complete victory, and compelled the Gallic monarch to return to France, with his scattered forces, in the utmost precipitation and dismay.

'The poem opens with the rejoicings of the French on the fall of Pampeluna, and, interrupted at times in its historical narration by episodes, which rather encrease, it is presumed, than diminish the interest of the story, proceeds, with regular steps, to its conclusion, by the discomfiture of Charlemagne and his army, at Roncesvalles.'

Of these episodes we must take some notice. That which occurs in the first canto is founded on the story of a Moor, who it seems has promised to bring to his unreasonable mistress the heads of Oliver, Rinaldo, and Orlando; and who for this redoubtable purpose sets forth for Pampeluna, where, having defeated the youthful knight Baldwin, he is himself vanquished and cruelly put to death by Orlando, after he has told the story of his love.—The opening of a poem, it may always fairly be presumed, has not been less laboured than any other part; we shall therefore begin *ab ovo*, and ask our readers whether the very style of the commencement of Marmion is not here brought to their recollection:

'Day broke on Pampeluna's towers,
And with refulgent beam,
Dispersed of night the shadowy hours
That played round Arga's stream:—
While, full on the astonished sight,
The Pyrenæan mountains, dight
With genial rays of liquid light,
Disclosed their giant form:
Where oft is heard the solemn sound
Of murmuring streams thro' caves profound,—
Or roaring winds, that swell around;—
The harbingers of storm.'

We shall not stay to remark such petty coincidences (since great wits will clash) as—

"Their voices echoing through the hall,
Woke Sewer, and Squire, and Seneschal,"

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printed, indeed, with inverted commas: but, briefly reminding Mr. B. of the aukwardness of his *inverted* genitive case, in the third line of our first quotation—

'Dispersed of night the shadowy hours,'

and which occurs again, page 6.

'Of youth the notice to engage,'

and again and again throughout the volume, we proceed to lay before our readers another proof of our assertion, that this gentleman has certainly obtained his receipt for writing a Metrical Romance from the great Empiric in question:

'Obedient to their king's command,
Forth from the tent the warlike band,
Barons and dukes, a splendid train,
Knights from each clime, renown to gain,
Spurred their proud coursers o'er the plain;
While cymbal, drum, and trumpet loud,
Announced their coming to the crowd.
Arranged the appointed lists around,
The din of arms and war notes sound,
The clash of swords, the neigh of steeds,
The prelude to adventurous deeds.
While, charming oft the gazer's eye,
Blazoned, o'er rich pavilions, fly
A thousand streamers to the view,
"Various in shape, device, and hue."
On scaffolds, richly-cinctured, sate
Matrons and maids of lineage great,
Robed in their ornaments of state.
And, through the range of tents, descried,
On palfreys gay, in ermined pride,
High-titled dames were seen to ride.'—

Passing numerous opportunities of exemplifying still farther the justice of our remark in this canto, we advance to the episode in the second.

After the council at the Spanish court, recorded above in Mr. Belfour's advertisement, Bernardo sets out on his journey to Pampeluna, where he is to announce to Charlemagne the change in Alphonso's resolutions. His parting with his mistress Olympia, it seems, is not so tender on his side as it might be wished, since the knight had been enticed some time before by a sorceress in the forest of Ardennes to the Fountain of Forgetfulness, &c. &c.; all which is very stale indeed. However, the knight pursues his way, and finds (of course) a naked lady tied to a tree. Two giants come out of the wood, and Bernardo (like Thumb or Bobadil) kills them both:—"Twenty more, kill them all."—The lady is

grateful,—the knight is enamoured,—she 'tells him her heart is another's,' and decently covers her bosom with her flowing hair. They then travel on together, and she relates her story, which describes her as a Spanish lady, and 'how she wooed an Englishman.'—This English knight, it appears, disguised himself in maid's attire, and (like the Chevalier Faublas, and a thousand other smock-faced intriguers) waited on his love, and persuaded her to elope: but they were overtaken, and separated by the giants above-mentioned.—[It is rather provoking, by the way, to be brought back to Mother Bunch, whether we will or not. When children have assumed the breeches, they naturally despise their petticoats, and resign at the same time their belief in Ogres.]—The English knight is then tossed off a rock into the sea, and the Spanish lady is courted by a young giant, from whom Bernardo relieved her.—*Comes jucundus est in viâ pro vehiculo*, as the saying is; so the knight and lady soon arrive at a hermit's cell; and here the ballad of Edwin and Angelina is set to a new tune, and the hermit turns out to be the lover:—who was rescued, as miraculously as Pangloss in any of his hair-breadth escapes, from the sea by some fishermen, and has lived (though not very happily) in this cave ever since! Bernardo leaves them to their joint meditations, and proceeds on his road to Pampeluna.

In all this we find very little to amuse, and nothing to inspire: but we remark a stanza of such unusual flatness and prosaic insipidity in the second canto, that, as a beacon to all future poets, we feel ourselves compelled to quote it. Alphonso is introduced in his palace, in a pensive state of mind:

'The offer of Iberia's throne,
To Charles, perhaps too rashly, made,
Awakened thoughts, engendered cares,
Which oft would sleep invade.
Oft in his mind ideas rose,
His aims the nobles would oppose;
Wont keen expressions to let fall
Of hatred towards insidious Gaul;
Or that, more fatal to his views,
His kindred would assent refuse,
And 'mong his subjects might instil,
Rebellion to his sovereign will.'

In the third canto, we have the description of a banquet,—the guests attired and the dishes avowedly served up by Walter Scott, Esq.—That the confession was absolutely compulsory, the following lines will plainly evince:

'Damsels,

'Damsels, and knights, and barons bold,
In weeds most gorgeous to behold,
Their limbs with pall and *sendeil* braced,
And plumes, and pearls, and diamonds graced—
* * * *
'As *splendour* round *refulgence* spread,
The knights to grace the banquet led
The ladies fair—and flushed with pride
Each took his seat his *Mie* beside;
Duteous while squires and pages stand
Attendant on their lords' command—
And, wont the valiant to delight,
As peacock—pheasant—met the sight—
As boarhead, cranes, and venison,
Hallowed by Turpin's benison,' &c. &c. &c.

Here Durandarte sings a most woeful madrigal to Belerma, and amply accounts for that lady's seven years' scorn of his passion.—A *Minstrel* too sings a *lay* in due form and order; which containeth the courtship of a christian widow and a Moorish swain, who renounces his religion and loses his head for love.—Bernardo now enters, and delivers his message; and a spirited dialogue ensues between him and Orlando: some part of which conversation, as one of the most favourable specimens of Mr. Belfour's poetry, we shall select. Bernardo is about to leave the camp of Charlemagne, on his return to the Spanish Army:

'Yet ere he held the broidered rein,
And pricked his courser to the plain,
Orlando near his saddle drew,
And loudly cried, "Brave youth, adieu!
Yet doth it grieve me to the heart,
That we thus quietly must part;—
Thy prowess known, for honour's sake,
With thee a lance I fain would break.—
But we anon, shall horse to horse,
With fury urge the thundering course,
And wield the sword with deadly force;—
And happiest shall I deem the day
When thus we mingle in the fray,—
The proudest of my laurels won,—
Shouldst thou be by this arm o'erthrown,—
That when, in bold heroic verse,
My deeds shall minstrels hoar rehearse,
They may to listening chieftains tell,
Bernardo by Orlando fell."
"E'en be it so,"—Bernardo cried,
"If heaven's high will shall so decide:—
Yet though enchanted be thy frame,
Gladly with thee I'll risk my fame.—

In

In plumed helm and corslet bright,
Where hottest is the glorious fight,—
There shalt thou prove the temper of this blade,
And see around thee heaps of warriors laid;—
While louder far than the shrill trumpet's breath,
Is heard the cry of 'Victory or Death!'"
He said—And seizing on his rein,
Spurred his gay courser o'er the plain,
Anxious the turrets proud of Burgos to regain.'

A prophecy of Astolpho, relating to the future greatness of Britain, is here most aukwardly introduced; indeed we have seldom met with any thing more irrelevant or more misplaced. Caractacus, Boadicea, King Arthur, and Lord Castlereagh, (for our assistance to the modern *Spanish Patriots* comes in for its share of praise,) are cited as warnings to Charlemagne not to attack a free country! This is really a transcendent instance of that unconnected rhapsody, which may be styled the genuine modern Pindaric, or the True Absurd;—a quality in our poetry which deserves a distinct treatise as fully as the Bathos. Here Mr. Belfour has far exceeded his great original; who, however, in his allusion to the late most honourable attack on Copenhagen, during his description of the battle of Flodden Field, must be allowed to have proceeded some length in his passage over the sublime regions of nonsense.

During Bernardo's absence, the Spanish court are dreadfully distressed by the loss of Ramiro, their King elect; whom the Moors have waylaid, and determine to keep in durance vile at Cordova, unless seven Spanish virgins are given up to them, or any of the champions of Spain will engage Almanzor, a gigantic Moor, in single combat.—As our knight, Bernardo, is journeying homewards, he hears, on the banks of the Ebro, a voice lamenting in one of the dungeons of a neighbouring castle. He is interested, and procures admittance to the captive, who turns out to be his father, the Count Saldana. This grandee had married Donna Ximena, sister of the King of Asturia: but the lady was immured for this offence in a convent, and the gentleman was sent to prison. As we would allow every merit to the author which lawfully belongs to him, we must notice this unexpected interview of the father and his son as one of the best parts of the book; though we must be contented with a reference to that passage, and to some portion of the battle in the last canto, as farther exceptions from our general censure of this performance. The quotations which we have already made are sufficient, we think, to establish the justice of our unfavourable sentence; and can-

dour has been adequately consulted by the insertion of the dialogue between the rival heroes.

We hasten now to bring the story to a conclusion; assuring our readers that nothing but a zeal for their service could induce us ever to undertake so unpleasant a task as the dry analysis of a metrical romancer's inventions: but without some such clues, most of these poems are inextricable labyrinths,

"A mighty maze, and *all* without a plan!"

We must, however, do Mr. Belfour the justice to acknowlege that he is intelligible indeed, compared to some of his contemporaries. Yet his episodes are so numerous, that we might almost call his work a poem in parentheses.

Bernardo, promising to exert every effort for his father's liberation, departs for the court of Alphonso; where he arrives just in time to fight the giant Moor Almanzor, after the latter has defeated several combatants. Having killed the Moor, he rescues the seven virgins. Among the wounded knights, his own mistress Olympia is discovered; who, assuming the disguise of manly armour, had endeavoured to meet the death which Bernardo's contempt made her desire. This proof of her extreme affection regains the love of her knight; and the incident is pretty enough. The canto concludes with the hostile troops being put in motion.

The fifth canto, to which we have been led by a long and circuitous course, and in which we now hope to see the promise of Bernardo's heroic valour realized,—just as we are anxious for the hosts of France and Spain to engage, and have taken our places on one of the heights which command Roncesvalles,—the fifth canto, we say, is again interrupted by a languishing episode of a virgin redeeming her lover's dead body, by her tears and prayers, from Orlando. At length, this hero marches to the fight, the armies actually engage, and the combat, as we have premised, is in parts well-described, though too tediously minute. The duel, however, of the two heroes, Bernardo and Orlando, is very spirited; and it ends with the death of the latter, atchieved after the same manner as that by which Hercules destroyed Antæus. We do not think that this *squeezing to death* is highly poetical: but the sin be upon the antient inventors of the mode! It will never be very fashionable with modern poets, notwithstanding the prevalence of the disgraceful art patronized by Pollux, in these our days of chivalry.—The defeat of the whole French army, and the establishment of the triumphant cause of Spanish Patriotism, conclude the poem.

Luigi

Luigi Pulci, author of the *Morgante Maggiore*, a noble composition, (portions of which we have seen admirably rendered by an anonymous writer in one of our Magazines,) has afforded Mr. Belfour his motto to the Battle of Roncesvalles:

" *Valle,*
Tu sarai ricordata in rima e in prosa ;"

the former part of which prophecy, Pulci himself has gloriously fulfilled; and the latter has been with equal fidelity accomplished by Mr. Belfour. Measured prose is, in fact, the highest title which his work can deserve; and we should not perhaps have extended our account of it beyond the simple remark above, had we not wished by every means in our power to stop the inundation of writers, which has been occasioned by the success of the founder of the new school of romance. His genius, be it remembered, is incommunicable; —that which gives animation, vigour, and effect to his poetry cannot be imparted to those who have it not naturally;—it is a brave disorder, which spurns all attempts to catch it by inoculation:—but the faults of his style are virulently infectious, and easy indeed of communication. *Decipit exemplar vitiis imitabile* is applicable to this case at present above all others; and, since it is a desperate case, we wish that our brother-physicians of the college in Grub-Street would join with us in endeavouring to exterminate, by strong fumigations, by caustics, and by every efficacious remedy, an epidemic so fatal to the sanity of thousands of His Majesty's liege poets, in this happy fiftieth year of his most gracious reign.

Hodg:

Art. III. *Chironomia*; or a Treatise on Rhetorical delivery, comprehending many Precepts, both Antient and Modern, for the proper Regulation of the Voice, the Countenance, and Gesture. Together with an Investigation of the Elements of Gesture, and a new Method for the Notation *thereof*; illustrated by many Figures. By the Reverend Gilbert Austin, A.M. 4to. pp. 583. 2l. 2s. Boards. Cadell and Davies.

In no state of society, perhaps, has Eloquence obtained a more powerful and permanent influence over the minds of men than it now possesses in our own country, yet never could it be indebted for its effect to fewer external advantages. In fact, if some stern and rude Lycurgus, in legislating for our Saxon ancestors, had resolved to preserve the people from the dangerous seductions which belong to this accomplishment, he could not have taken more effectual means to guard against them, than by constructing the theatres of

rhetorical exhibition precisely in their actual style. On visiting the venerable pile which embraces within its precincts nearly all the important public functions of our commonwealth,—the seat of legislative authority,—the arena of political contention,—the abode of justice in all her awful majesty and under all her diversified forms,—how must a foreigner be astonished to observe, while he counts his sounding paces through the deserted hall of Rufus, that the interests of nations and the rights of individuals are discussed in antichambers and closets! When he has with difficulty effected his passage through the dark and winding ways which conduct him to the House of Commons, and has gazed at the obscure corner to which our senators retire to adjust the affairs of Europe, he will inquire for the leading orator of this distinguished assembly, and will discover him, with wonder, in the least conspicuous part of the building, and speaking as from the bottom of a well. In all our courts of justice, metropolitan as well as provincial, the advocate occupies a similar situation; as if the tendency of the voice to ascend had been alone considered, and the various advantages of a commanding position were entirely overlooked. We might be tempted to suppose that the elevated rostrum, from which our clergy address their congregations, was more favourable to an impressive mode of enunciation, if the reverend author before us did not most feelingly complain of several inconvenient adjuncts; observing that the preacher 'is inclosed nearly as high as his breast, and bolstered up with cushions in a narrow pulpit, from which he generally reads his discourse, with his face almost close to his book, whilst little more than his head and shoulders can be seen'—a situation which is condemned as equally destructive to the graces and the energies of delivery.

Even at our popular elections, where every facility should be afforded for addressing the collected multitude, and where the candidates should erect their hustings in the manner most conducive to this purpose, the venerated form of our great patriot was lost among a busy throng of poll-clerks and parish officers; and his voice was completely drowned by the murmurs of a crowd, from which there was nothing to discriminate his situation. One moment's reflection on the striking difference between the eminences from which Demosthenes and Cicero harangued the men of Athens and of Rome, and the post occupied by Mr. Fox while pouring forth his noble exhortations to the electors of Westminster, will place in the strongest view the marked disparity between the advantages prepared for eloquence in antient and in modern times; while the pitch-pipe of Gracchus, and Tully's specimens of phrases

so skilfully wrought as to throw all the listeners into ecstasy from the collocation of indifferent words, evince a degree of delicacy in the hearer, and of labour in the speaker, of which our own experience does not enable us to form the most distinct conception.

While the attitudes of our public speakers are thus circumscribed, and their limbs confined, by the place in which their efforts must be made, all attempts to gesticulate with grace and freedom may be deemed fruitless and unavailing, and no instruction in the arts of delivery can easily be turned to account: but we apprehend that a farther reason may be assigned for the neglect into which these arts have fallen. The English, we suspect, though it might be difficult to explain the fact, are naturally not a gesticulating people. A Frenchman can scarcely recount the most ordinary tale without a thousand rapid and lively actions, imitative of the facts described, or expressive of his own warm interest in them; the Italians are even more apt to second their speech with action: but an Englishman will not only relate a tragical event, or report a pathetic speech, or describe a vehement crisis, without any accompanying gesture; he will even act and say violent things under the influence of strong passion, without betraying himself to a distant observer by attitude or motion. Hence, on the one hand, the appearance of our theatrical performers is generally characterized as *glacé*, by those who have been accustomed to foreign stages; and hence, on the other, in some degree, our own surprise at the anxiety manifested by many foreign dramatists of our times, to regulate the positions, marches, halts, and gestures, of those who are to represent their works.—It may be remarked, too, that, though ballets of action have lately so much prevailed in our theatres, the plots communicated by pantomimic contrivances are always very imperfectly understood by the spectators.

Now, if the habits of Englishmen are decidedly adverse to the employment of gesture in discourse, the orator, in whatever department, applying himself only to the task of convincing and persuading his hearers, will do well to sacrifice all inferior considerations to their feelings and prejudices; he will (if we may make free with a line of Pope, which refers to a different object, but rests on the same general principle,)

> 'Consult the *genius of the place* in all;"—

and he will studiously avoid every risk of diverting attention from an important object to any peculiarities in his own manner. He will no more adopt the animated actions with which a Roman speaker enforced his argument, — the *supplosio pedis*,

and the *percussio femoris*,—than he will walk into the House of Commons invested with a classical toga, or address the peers of Britain by the title of Conscript fathers. The antient dress may indeed be far more graceful, the language more pointed and concise, and the gestures more energetic and appropriate, than those which are now in use: but a sensible man remembers that he is standing on English ground and speaking to an English audience. Mr. Hume, in his admirable Essay on Eloquence, from which copious extracts are properly made in Mr. Austin's volume, says that some commanding mind, united to a graceful person, an attractive manner, and a clear and powerful voice, might possibly succeed in introducing the use of gesture in our parliamentary debates; and he instances Lord Bolingbroke, as possessing many of the accomplishments which are calculated to effect such an innovation. We are strongly inclined, however, to believe that even that distinguished person, had he made the attempt, would have been saluted with a general laugh, and would have found it difficult to obtain a second hearing. The great Earl of Chatham, perhaps, carried the approach to gesticulation quite as far as it could be tolerated among us.

Entertaining these opinions, we can scarcely expect that a 'Treatise on rhetorical Delivery, with Precepts on the Regulation of Gesture,' will ever become a very useful practical book in this country, or will impart lessons that are adapted to constant application. Nevertheless, we are far from wishing to reject such a work as altogether unserviceable. The limited portion of gesture, which custom permits in our public assemblies, should be appropriate and inoffensive; and, as "those move easiest who have learned to dance," and those stand most firmly balanced who have acquired skill in the noble science of defence, so the little which can be done in this way will probably be best done by those who have laboured with some care, and according to a certain system, to "suit the action to the word, and the word to the action." To such persons as are disposed to make the experiment, we may safely recommend Mr. Austin's book as a rich treasury of facts, anecdotes, precepts, and observations connected with the subject, drawn from a great variety of quarters, and arranged on the whole with perspicuity and convenience.

It is time, however, for us to allow the author to speak for himself; and we shall select a passage of rather a general nature, including in a great degree the leading principles of his system. If the reader should deem some parts of it a little fanciful, he will hardly fail, we think, to admit that it is strongly marked by predominating good sense:

'When

'When gesture is used and not marked by the precision of the stroke in the proper places, the arms seem to wander about in quest of some uncertain object, like a person groping in the dark; and the action is of that faulty kind, which is called *sawing* the air; which though suitable for some particular expressions (as doubt or general rejection of means proposed), is very offensive when frequently and injudiciously used. Even graceful motions, as they may sometimes be seen, particularly among singers on the stage, unmarked by the precision of the stroke of the gesture, lose much of their force and effect; and their soft flowing quickly ceases to afford pleasure. Gesture used for the mere display of the person, without reference to any other particular or decided meaning in its movements and changes, very soon disgusts. The gesture of a serious dancer in a *pas seul*, by its vanity and affectation, soon fatigues all, who are not enamoured either of the dancer or of the art. It is perhaps in order to do away this incongruity that ballets are invented and accommodated to some story, so as to create an interest in the gestures of the dancers by their imagined situation, and to give them the variety arising from the passions they are supposed to feel, as love, jealousy, hope, fear, disappointment, and joy. But all the unmeaning and unmarked motions of public speakers, whether on the stage or elsewhere, are attended with the same ill effect, as a mouthing and canting tone of declamation, which lays no emphasis with just discrimination, but swells and falls with a vain affectation of feeling, and with absolute deficiency both of taste and judgment.

'There are also other points of analogy in the management of the voice and gesture, which merit consideration. In the simple and narrative parts of a discourse, there is little effort or variety of expression in the voice; it barely slides up and down within the small interval which limits its modulation.

'Under the same circumstances the gesture, if any be used, is tame and simple; but, in the more impassioned parts they are both equally exerted: the voice is elevated and varied, and the gesture becomes more bold and frequent. The gesture also in many instances nearly imitates the manner of the inflections of the voice. When the voice rises, the gesture seems also naturally to ascend, and when the voice makes the falling inflection, or lowers its tones, the gesture follows it by a corresponding descent; and in the level and monotonous pronunciation of the voice, the gesture seems to observe a similar limitation, by moving rather in the horizontal direction without varying its elevation. And in general, the gesture will be found to follow the voice implicitly, as nearly as possible, by marking for the eye every idea, which that distinguishes for the ear, and by reserving its most forcible action for that word or syllable which the voice marks by the strongest emphasis.

'The writers upon gesture in general desire that it should accompany the words, that is, that it should neither precede nor follow them. This rule, if applied to the calmer parts of a discourse, will be found very nearly correct. But if the speaker be warmed or excited, some difference of time, however small, will take place between the gesture and the language. The order of the different ac-

tions or movements of the speaker will be best determined by investigating the rise and progress of the ideas which he has to recommend to his audience.

'A public speaker is supposed to have made, either from previous study at home, or from the rapid glance of the moment, some arrangement of the topics upon which his argument is to be maintained. These cannot all be produced at once; they not only appear to the hearers to arise in the speaker's mind in succession, but they actually do so, even when he pronounces a premeditated, or reads a written discourse. If his manner of speaking be confined to mere dry dissertation, he will proceed coldly and uniformly throughout; but if his argument be maintained by rhetorical ornament and illustration; and if he appeal to the passions of his audience, he will himself be excited, and the interest he feels, however rapidly he may proceed, will discover itself at each different period in the following order. The thought which arises in his mind will instantly be seen in his countenance, and first in his eyes, which it will brighten or suffuse, then suitable gestures follow, and last the words find utterance. The countenance and gesture are the language of nature, words are derived from art, and are more tardy in their expression; sometimes in high passion they cannot at all find their way, till the voice first breaks out into those tones and interjections, which appear to be the only language of nature belonging to the voice.

'In this view of the subject, the difficulty of reconciling authors to each other, and even to themselves, is got over: and the order of the combined expressions of the signs of a public speaker will be thus; In calm discourse, the words and gestures are nearly contemporaneous; and in high passion the order is; 1. The eyes. 2. The countenance in general. 3. The gestures. 4. Language. But the interval between each is extremely limited.'

Our scepticism, in regard to the utility of instructions in the art of gesticulation, by no means extends to the propriety of using every exertion towards obtaining perfection in the management of the voice; of which, indeed, the expressiveness ought to be the more assiduously cultivated by public speakers, in proportion as they are debarred from the privilege of throwing force and meaning into their attitudes and gestures. What is wanting in the one should be supplied by the other; and the oratorical style would receive incalculable improvement, if it were so laboured as to accommodate itself to the various powers of striking emphasis, instead of indulging in the endless volubility and perpetual repetition to which resort is too frequently had, in parliament and elsewhere, for the purpose of effectually impressing the speaker's sense on the mind of his hearers. Mr. Austin's precepts for the modulation of the voice are numerous and sensible; and his appendix contains an amusing and not uninstructive description of the means employed by the Phonasci of antient times to strengthen and improve

prove it. We should have been happy to lay this paper before our readers, if it were not too long, and too much chequered with Latin and Greek quotations.

The author's industry in collecting materials for his work has already received our praise, and is indeed more intitled to it than his discrimination and judgment in selecting them for the use of his readers. Many of the extracts will be found to illustrate the main subject in the happiest manner, and the classical reader will feel much indebted to Mr. Austin for preserving so much of the ingenious Latin poem of Lucas, *de actione Oratoris*: but not a few exhibit an immoderate appetite for making citations. Those positions of the hands described by Quintilian, of which the author professes not to perceive the significancy, might surely have been spared; and in speaking of the numerous plates, we must here remark that the engraved shoes, which mark the relative situation of the feet, will scarcely be found very useful, as directing the mode in which an actor should plant them on a stage which he does not see; that the various actions required in reciting Gay's fable of the Miser and Plutus are by much too solemn and vehement; and that, in recognizing some of Mr. Engel's attitudes, as expressive of particular emotions, we feel some of the difficulties stated by us in reviewing Mr. Siddons's translation of the work of that learned German*. If the reader, for instance, will turn to 'grief' and 'agony of mind,' (No. 113. and No. 114. in plate the eleventh,) he may be, like ourselves, more apt to imagine that the delineations are intended for "sober contentment" and "drunken satisfaction," than for the melancholy passions for which they are designed. The plates are nevertheless well executed, and in many respects form a valuable commentary on the book.

We are really loth to pronounce an unfavourable judgment on the new scheme of *notation* invented, explained, and very highly appreciated by Mr. Austin; yet he would perhaps still less forgive us if we passed it over in silence. We must avow, then, that we have examined it with care, and are sorry to acknowlege that it appears to us cumbersome, complicated, and ill adapted to its purpose.

In this volume, we have detected with surprize a few trifling errors. Richmond and Macduff are confounded, a speech of the one being ascribed to the other. It is much more extraordinary that Shakspeare's Mark Antony should be deliberately treated as the same person with Cicero's Antonius, who figures so conspicuously in the dialogue *de Oratore*, where

* See our Number for last April, p. 373.

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he appears as the companion, as he was the friend and rival, of the celebrated Crassus. This grand mistake is formally introduced by a grave remark, that 'it is a little singular, if Shakspeare was as illiterate as is reported, that he has given to *Antony* almost the very species of eloquence which Cicero describes him to have possessed; so that it is questionable whether the real could have equalled the imagined Antony of our great poet.' We entirely agree with this remark, and think that the "*flebile quiddam in conquestionibus, aptumque cum ad fidem faciendam, tum ad misericordiam commovendam,*" was never so finely exemplified as in Antony's harangue to the Romans, in Shakspeare's Julius Cæsar: but Cinna the poet must not be treated as Cinna the conspirator.

In a word, we think that Mr. Austin's book, notwithstanding a few faults and some redundancies, may be found instructive and useful: at any rate, we are sure that it is curious and entertaining; and the reader's convenience in perusing it is consulted by a full index.

Den.

ART. IV. *Poems*; consisting of Translations, from the Greek, Latin, and Italian; with some Originals. By Mrs. Ware, of Ware Hill, Herts. Crown 8vo. 7s. Boards. Cadell and Davies. 1809.

A LADY, a scholar, and a poetess! We shall no doubt be accused of being barbarians indeed, if we resist these united claims on our critical forbearance. Yet we have a paramount duty which we owe to the public; and which compels us to greater accuracy and minuteness in examining these poems, and in stating our objections to them, than would be compatible with our gallantry under any other circumstances. Mrs. Ware seems not to be sensible that it is as easy to scribble indifferent verse, as it is difficult to reach the heights of genuine poetry. "The mob of gentlemen who write with ease" have their counterparts in the softer sex: but we by no means intend absolutely to include Mrs. Ware in so insipid a coterie; and we shall mention our specific reasons for offering some advice to this fair writer, as well as for tempering our criticism with a due degree of praise.

In the Battle of the Frogs and Mice, which Parnell and others have translated, and which is here purported to be rendered from Homer, but which bears strong marks of having passed through a Latin medium, we have the following grammatical errors, to say nothing of general imperfection in giving the exact meaning of the original:

Page 13.

Page 13. Mrs. Ware. 'Great Tyroglyphas' son.'
Homer. Τυρογλύφα υἱος.

Page 17. Mrs. Ware. Lychenorem,—a wrong pronunciation of the Latin accusative case in the literal version of Homer; which also should have been *Lichenora*, from Λειχηνορα.

Ibid. Mrs. Ware. Peleionem.
Homer. Πηλειωνά.

In Page 18. we have Troglodytes,—though in the page before Troglodites, rightly pronounced.—Ibid. Lichenor in the nominative case; evidently shewing that the Latin and the English accusative were considered to be the same.—Page 19. 'Tyroglyphus' again—with a small variation in spelling, as in the case of Lichenor and Troglodites, supposed, we conclude, to authorize the variation in quantity.—Ibid. Pternoglyphus—Πτερνογλύφος. Λειχοπίναξ, Lichopinax; Crissodioctes, for Cnissodioctes; Pelusium (the name of a place, not of a man or frog,) used in the accusative case for the nominative Pelusius. —Page 20. μεγον ἡπαρ is translated "ruby liver;" and ibid, Artipibulus, for Ἀρτεπιβυλος.

The translations from the Latin are, as we might expect, considerably better than those from the Greek; which, with an exception rather in favour of the versions from Theocritus, we reluctantly characterize as decidedly tame and incorrect. In the Ceyx and Alcyone from Ovid, are some passages which rise above the mediocrity of the larger part of this volume: but at the same time we have manifold instances of carelessness, and want of spirit. Such couplets as the following should never have been permitted to see the light:

Page 53. 'Her falt'ring tongue thrice to address him tries,
But bursting tears all utterance *denies*.'

P. 59. 'Some furl the sails, while some incessant lave
From out the vessel the encroaching wave.'

P. 65. We have Athon, for Athos; and at p. 76. the strange adverb, 'unwelcomely:'—but the Cave of Sleep, page 68., is well described. The subsequent lines appear to us very happy:

'As o'er the stones the waters softly creep,
The hollow sound invites to calmest sleep'—

and we may refer to this place for several other examples of correct and poetical expression: but the last line of this translation is the most extraordinary specimen of a "lame and impotent conclusion" that we can recollect;

'And his descendants safely flutter o'er the sea.'

Page 80.

Page 80. we have 'nuptial *rights*' for "*rites*," the parties being not yet married.—Page 87. 'sputt'ring gore.'—Page 122. 'antique salts,' a kind of glass-cutter's phrase, to express the simplicity of *paternum salinum*. Indeed, we particularly wish that Mrs. Ware had not rendered into English any part of Horace, that most exquisite master of poetical language; because failure is here certain, without a complete and profound scholarship, a perfect taste, and an equal force and elegance of style. Mrs. W. also, according to the custom of the age, has been strikingly injudicious in selecting the very best Odes of Horace for her imitation. Besides her numerous inaccuracies in these versions, she has made gratuitous and flat additions to the original at the concluding stanzas of *Rectius vives*, and of *Æquam memento*; and we read, page 137., 'through months successive roll;' 'the certain shore,' page 141.; and 'spectres rare,' 143.; which we confess ourselves unequal to reconcile with meaning and grammar: but perhaps one of the two requisites may be enough: we are unwilling to be fastidious.—Ibid.: the couplet

'In Pluto's shadowy realm you'll find
The cot for peace or woe design'd,'

presents a new image to us, of a cottage in a very unusual place; and 'Acrivius and Danæ,' 145., introduce two new characters to our acquaintance. The lines

'One Macedonian hero paid
His gold, and conquer'd without strife,' 146.,

concisely remind us of the Man of Macedon;

—"*Diffidit urbium*
Portas vir Macedo, et subruit æmulos
Reges muneribus."—

It is not thus that Horace is to be complimented away. We really cannot afford him to the fairest of our fair candidates for literary fame; and until England produces another Sappho, we must proscribe the goosequills of our countrywomen from the pages of the most enchanting of Roman poets.

Page 148. 'For those who covet greatly strive
With wants, by reason rarely taught,'

is a passage as animated as it is intelligible; and we could select too many similar instances of equal sense and spirit: but we forbear, and will merely observe that the table of *errata* in this volume had better not have been published, since the scantiness of the list only renders more prominent the faults which are not noticed. For instance;—we have 'Tuba' corrected

corrected to 'Juba,' page 114. but 'Apalia' stands uncorrected for 'Apulia,' in the very next line;—'tide' is corrected, if it can be so called, to 'hide,' 139.; but the word 'Gelonians' is printed with an apostrophe, wrongly, in the very same verse;—we have 'Tityon' for 'Tityus,' 129.; and Gerȳon for Gerȳones;—'infest,' and 'infest,' repeated, infest us through page 122;—and at page 127. we are told that.

> 'An ample recompense they find
> Whom *Silence's* true dictates bind.'

We fear that we shall not find this recompense in Mrs. Ware's favour: but we could not be silent, consistently with propriety, on such frequent errors. The indulgence of criticism begets the abundance of authors.

To come now to the Italian translations; we must briefly remark that

> 'Orlando ting'd with blood,
> Drench'd with the brine, and spatter'd with the mud,

does not form a very engaging picture: but Ariosto himself is not particularly delicate, and his translator may be excused. Indeed her few Italian translations are, we think, creditable to her taste; and the scene from the Pastor Fido is very prettily rendered.—Let us encourage Mrs. Ware to pursue more attentively the study of this pleasing and poetical language. We are, indeed, on the whole, inclined to attribute the chief defects of this lady's translations to a want rather of sufficient acquaintance with her originals, than of poetic ability; and when we consider that she is self-instructed, (as she informs us in the preface,) we are more disposed to wonder at what she has attained than to blame her deficiencies. The faults which we have pointed out will serve as a beacon to her in any future production; which, if she suffers it to pass the circle of her friends, we trust that she will endeavour to render more generally correct in point of expression. From classical translation we dissuade her, till she has attained a more perfect knowlege of the languages which she professes to render: but we think that, in some of her own compositions, (particularly in the tender lines addressed to an absent husband, and in those on a deceased father, pages 191. and 207.) we discover a power of writing pathetically, and of attaining with care and practice a more creditable accuracy of style.

Hodg.

ART.

ART. V. *Munimenta Antiqua*; or, Observations on antient Castles. Including Remarks on the whole Progress of Architecture, Ecclesiastical as well as Military, in Great Britain: and on the corresponding Changes, in Manners, Laws, and Customs. Tending both to illustrate Modern History, and to elucidate many interesting Passages in various antient classic Authors. By Edward King, Esq., F.R.S. and A.S. Vol. IV. Folio. pp. 312. and 60 Plates. 5l. 15s. 6d. Boards. Nicol.

THE sacred edifices of this island not only strike curious travellers with respect for the piety and religious zeal of our ancestors, but also display such various characters and styles of architecture as render them objects of study to artists. As to the most antient of these structures, they are indeed left to speak for themselves; and conjecture and theory have full play respecting the precise age of their erection, the plans which were originally adopted, and the subsequent alterations which they underwent. They nevertheless constitute materials for amusing research; and, when this pursuit is adopted by such a man as the late Mr. King, it must eventually prove a source of gratification to architects and antiquaries. Those who have perused the preceding volumes of this work are apprized of the learning, the labour, and the expence with which this gentleman prosecuted his inquiries; and while they gladly receive a continuation of them, they will learn with regret that the death of the author has put a final period to his undertaking.

Of the third volume, as well as of the exordium to the fourth, (which for certain reasons was published in a detached form) we gave some account in the 54th volume of our New Series, p. 113, and referred at the bottom of the page to our reviews of Vols. I. and II. Our readers, perhaps, will recollect that the Introduction to Book IV. Chapter II., which appeared in a separate pamphlet, respected the controversy concerning the era of the introduction of the Arch, a subject which we shall be required to resume at the conclusion of this article: but since it bears no relation to the inquiry prosecuted through the great majority of these pages, it shall not *bend* us from that strait-forward course which we are induced to pursue. Mr. King, in Chapter II., which occupies almost the whole of this volume, presents us with '*Observations concerning the History and Origin of the first Churches, and religious Structures amongst the Saxons,—and also concerning the State of Ecclesiastical Architecture, during the whole Period of the Saxon and Danish Monarchies in Britain.*' For this peep into antiquity, the author was as well prepared as any of his contemporaries; and though we cannot always see with his eyes, we must

must do him the justice of admitting that he took great pains to obtain as correct vision as the circumstances of the case would admit. Marks of patient and extensive investigation are apparent; numerous detached specimens of antient architecture in this island are exhibited together; plates are given in abundance; and the reader is put in possession of a collection of facts on which he may exercise his own judgment.

Though Mr. King was aware of 'the difficulty of forming, rightly, adequate ideas of past ages,' and admits that 'the change of circumstances, and of the whole scene of things, is so great, that the mind can hardly be brought effectually to imagine itself in the same situation, or to form apprehensions, or conceptions, at all like those in earlier days,' (p. 113, note) he often ventures on explanations which require an intimate acquaintance with agents whose motives it is now impossible to appreciate, and whose taste and attainments are objects of mere conjecture. Every man, who is engaged in an inquiry so extensive as that which is prosecuted in this work, will be induced to form some hypothesis, and will labour to support it; we are therefore not surprized to find the author, having proclaimed himself the champion of Saxon architecture, employing all his skill and industry to revive its reputation; and to prevent the Normans from obtaining credit for structures which were erected previously to their ascendancy in this island. The characters and features of the Saxon style are here nicely displayed: but, as it is confessed that this style 'nearly agrees with the early Norman,' we are inclined to believe that Mr. King has often been too precipitate in his claims in behalf of the Saxon architect. Barfreston church, his first specimen, cannot be so antient as he supposes: its mouldings may retain the stamp of an age previous to the conquest: but its pointed arches evince a Norman architect. Perhaps not one ecclesiastical structure, which is entirely Saxon, now exists in the whole kingdom. That in several of our cathedrals, and conventual churches, specimens of architecture and embellishment truly Saxon are still to be found, is unquestionable: but these are blended with subsequent improvements; and it is often difficult to distinguish the one from the other. *Domus solidis suffulta columnis* may originally have been Saxon: but, when we see pointed arches springing from dwarf massy columns with clumsy capitals, we have good reason for believing that the Norman architect has left little more than the mere pillars. Plate VI. of this volume represents what Mr. King terms *Norman alterations at Malmsbury*, in which we see a pointed arch springing from massy Saxon columns, a Saxon arch with a

zigzag fret above this, and another pointed arch surmounting the whole; and he tells us that

'If an intelligent antiquary were asked the question, when these several parts were built? he must return the almost ludicrous answer, (yet perfectly consistent with truth)—*first the middle*;—*then the bottom*;—*and then the top*. For the wall originally was *Saxon*, with circular arches;—but in the time of the *Normans*, first the lower circular arch was cut out into the form of what was become more fashionable, *a pointed arch*;—and afterwards the still more modern window was added above.'

We think that a glance at this specimen would induce any architect to form a different opinion. The supposition is almost absurd that the builders of this church would take the great trouble of supporting the middle of a wall, in order to add a bottom and a top to it. We perceive that the prevailing feature is the Norman style; and if some apparently Saxon work is introduced in the middle story or compartment of the wall, it was for the purpose of variety, or, as it was thought, of giving a better effect to the whole. Still less are we inclined to attribute to the clumsy Saxons the very elegant door at Malmsbury, which is delineated in Plate IV.; and indeed we should as readily assign to the Goths the grand entrance to the Temple of the Sun at Palmyra. This door-way at Malmsbury must have been a subsequent imitation of and improvement on the Saxon style. As it is a well-known fact that the *ecclesiastics* themselves were *the architects*, in the early days to which we are adverting, it is conjectured by Mr. King that *Aldelme*, who came to Malmsbury about the time of building the monastery and church there, (i. e. in the year 640 or 650,) who had attained considerable skill in what was then called philosophy and liberal science, and who was able to build in the first style of that age, designed this very curious door: but it is obvious to remark that, if he had been enabled to design with so much elegance in one instance, he might also in others; and that, in this case, we should have seen the whole edifice constructed with equal taste and beauty of enrichment.

Wilfrid and *Grimbold*, in the latter end of the seventh century, returning from Rome, probably imported among the Saxons some knowlege of good masonry and architecture: but we cannot, at this distance of time, estimate the amount of their skill, nor state what improvements they introduced. Mr. K. attributes the peculiarities which occur in the Saxon buildings, to the state of mankind at that period; and he proceeds, at some length, to describe the ideas which then prevailed, as introductory to his history of sacred architecture. We do not deem it necessary to follow him in his account of their reli-

gious notions and superstitions respecting relics*, images, &c. but shall restrict our notice to the professed object of the publication. Passing over a variety of amusing matter, we present our readers with Mr. King's statement of the discriminating features of the Saxon architecture, by which it may be distinguished both from the *Roman* and from the *Norman:*

'The circumstance by which the *Saxon arches* peculiarly differ from the *Roman*, and from the *British imitations* of the Roman, ought not to be passed by unnoticed; which is, that the true *Roman arches have none of those odd mouldings*,—zigzag,—embattled,—triangularly fretted,—nail headed,—hatched,—billeted,—lozenge work,—nebulated,—twisted,—braided,—and tripled indented; whereas the Saxon arches are overloaded with them.

'It ought also further to be remarked, that although indeed the *Saxon arches*, and especially those of the latter period of the *Saxon* dominion, have sometimes only the zigzag moulding, which was afterwards also used by the *Normans*; or only the triple indented moulding; yet in general, when that is the case, there is a sort of wildness even in it, and often a *larger indentation*, which sufficiently distinguishes *Saxon* from *Norman* work.

'The *Saxon* arch may also often be distinguished from the *Roman* arch, as Mr. Wilkins has accurately observed, *by the very simple kind of* impost *moulding in stone, generally used by the Saxons, and afterwards by the Norman Architects.*

'These five peculiarities, therefore, are the characteristick distinctions of the *early Saxon arches:*—

'1. A studied diversity of ornament, in the capitals of the supporting pillars, on each side the arch; instead of exact uniformity.

'2. A transom stone, (or transom stones,) most usually filling up the semi-circular part of the arch, as if to support it on the inside; and generally resting on the pillars of the two ends.

'3. The supporting pillars, placed *standing inwards*, and somewhat nearer to each other than the whole diameter of the arch; and so as to support, with their capitals, both the inward *transom* stones, as well as the ends of the arch.

'4. A loaded variety of ornaments, on the mouldings of the arch; and often *in very small compartments*,—And a great variety of mouldings, besides the indented moulding.

'5. Yet, in general, a very plain simple kind of impost moulding, resting on the capitals of the pillars, for the support of the arch.

'All these five peculiarities are sometimes, (though not often,) found united together in the same door-case, or window:—and are

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* In a short note, we shall insert this curious morsel of history. 'The mouldering bones of Saints, or at least those substituted for them, bore so high a price, that in 1021, an arm of *St. Augustin*, Bishop of Hippo, was purchased by *Agelnoth*, Archbishop of Canterbury, for six thousand pounds weight of silver, and sixty pounds weight of gold.' p. 54.

ever so *truly characteristick*, that hardly any *Saxon door-way* is ever found without one or two of them combined.

'By these circumstances, therefore, such parts of truly antient ecclesiatical *Saxon* Buildings as remain may be identified.—But it is not to be imagined, either that these peculiar ornaments continued invariably to be used, *just in the same sort of fashion*, quite till the Norman Conquest; or that immediately afterwards, they went *entirely* out of use.—Now and then they were somewhat imitated by the *Normans*;—but in such a manner, that as far as I have ever seen any instances, they may easily be distinguished by a discerning eye, both by the *larger proportion* of the several parts, and by an evident introduction of *corresponding ornaments*, on each side, instead of the *Saxon diversity*.

'They may possibly also have been imitated from mere fancy, in a few instances, in succeeding ages; as they might even be introduced, in a mere modern building, so as to deceive the unwary.—But nevertheless they will still be truly characteristick of the *Saxon Ecclesiastical style of building*.'

To the observations made in this passage, the architectural student will attend in the examination of our most antient edifices; and as he proceeds to the Norman era, he will recollect the remarks, which Mr. K. himself appears often to have forgotten, contained in the latter paragraphs of the passage just extracted. The Saxon fashion is not always an evidence of Saxon antiquity. In the church of New Shoreham, in Sussex, for instance, a profusion of ornaments of the Saxon character occurs: but, when these mouldings decorate a pointed arch, as is there the case, can we regard them in any other light than as imitations of the Saxon, from mere fancy? *

The

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* Let Mr. K. speak for himself. 'These sort of remains of the most antient *Saxon* times, are to be met with in more churches than is generally supposed;—and they are very often mistaken, as to their date:—because, in other places, as well as in a part of the Church of Shoreham, the original round arches which such Pillars once supported, have been pulled down, and *pointed ones* built in their stead; or even the very identical old round Arches have been cut into *pointed Arches*.

'Pl. XXXVI. represents some of these at *Shoreham*;—wherein, if they were not odd instances of attempts to introduce *the pointed Arch* long before it came into common use, (concerning which there may perhaps be formed some suspicions,) still the odd fantastick kind of work, found in the more antient parts of the Church, is in a very remarkable manner *imitated*.'

In the next page, we find the description of *a door-way and arches*, illustrated with a plate, on which the following comment is made:

'The *allegorical* simplicity of this design, shews the inoffensiveness of the *Saxon* emblematical devices;—whilst the regularity of its mouldings,

The Saxon style is marked not only by its whimsical, grotesque, and varied capitals, but by its numerous mouldings, or frets, of which Mr. K. gives a catalogue containing forty-one species; and he is of opinion that the fantastic ornaments here introduced 'were truly an *English invention*, which took its rise from ingenuity consequent on *monastic leisure* in this very island.'* Not, however, to the bold genius of the *Lords of the creation* do we owe the enrichments of Saxon architecture, but, according to this author, *to the Ladies*; whose needle-work, on their samplers, is supposed to have been copied in stone. To a female also he gives the invention of the *pointed arch*. We conclude that the ladies will respect the memory of Mr. K. for conferring on them these distinctions.

It has been the opinion of some antiquaries that no truly Saxon church had cross ailes or transepts: but Mr. King thinks that this conjecture is not well founded, and that St. Alban's and Tewkesbury churches are exceptions. He labours this point through several pages, but without producing any conviction in our minds.

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mouldings, shews it to have been of a later age than those already described, and nearer to the time of the Conquest.

'The representation of two dead serpents, forms the upper moulding, with the extremities of their tails elegantly entwined, by way of ornament to the crown of the Arch; but with their heads hanging, in a flaccid manner, downwards; as being emblems of the destruction of the power of the serpent, and of the victory over the great enemy of mankind.

'This kind of simple allegorical device is surely *Saxon*,—and the Pillars beneath, stand on each side, quite *within* the compass of the Arch, also in a truly *Saxon* manner.—But, in other respects, the mouldings are such as might be suspected to have been *Norman*.'

It is surely a Norman door-way, on the author's own principle, since the columns and capitals on each side are not varied, but correspond.

* This play of fancy, however, is not to be regarded as without precedent. The architects of Alfred are imagined to have been authorized by specimens seen at Rome and in Egypt.

'Of this introduction of *variety*, and departure from all rule, there are sufficient proofs, in the specimens of Capitals given us by *Piranesi*.

'These very *variations*, therefore, might probably lead the *Saxon* Artists, and the Travellers, to fancy they should even shew their skill, by studying to make still greater.

'The same sort of idea seems to have prevailed in the minds of all Architects almost, in what are called barbarous ages.—For of this there are still more unquestionable proofs, in the surprizing *varieties* of the Capitals of Pillars, in Egypt, and elsewhere, as given us in the curious Plates of *Norden* and *Pococke*.'

On the authority of a manuscript, it has been maintained that the Cathedral of Gloucester now stands on a spot "*a little distant from where the former* [*Aldred's*] *stood*;" and if this testimony be admitted, the Saxon architects must be excluded from all share in the present edifice, which was begun by Abbot *Serlo*, chaplain to William the Conqueror, about A. D. 1089, and was finished and consecrated A. D. 1100. Mr. King, in course, protests against the evidence of this MS.; and he contends that what was called a re-building was only an enlargement, and that a considerable portion of the original Saxon church still remains:

'Though (says he) the ornaments of the Arches have just the same indented zigzag mouldings, that were so prevalently in fashion, all over the kingdom, in *Gundulph*'s, and in *Serlo*'s time:—and so also have the little Arches above; and the mouldings on the walls:—yet the little Arches themselves, which, divested of their ornaments, are so much smaller, and so very unlike those constructed in *William the Conqueror*'s time at *Hereford*, and so exceedingly, both in dimension, and form, like those at *Tewkesbury*, and *Pershore*, may induce us to suspect, that even *they*, as well as the great Arches, and Pillars beneath, were indeed a part of the old original work reared by Osrick, in 681 or 682, and were afterwards thus ornamented in *Serlo*'s time.

'Of such ornaments, added upon old original Arches, we have many instances.—And in the Cathedral Church of *Norwich*, there are not only Arches of the time of William Rufus, some with those ornaments, and some without; but on the south side, near the organ, there is one in part finished with such ornaments, and in part unfinished, as it was originally; wherein (even till my time, and till the repairs of that Church about 1765) the very iron tool, which the last workman (who there lost his life) used, in the days of Henry the First, was left fixed in the wall, as a memorial of the sad accident which happened, of his falling from the scaffold, and being killed upon the spot;—in consequence of which event, the work was stopped, and this Arch left in an unfinished state; half as it was in the time of William Rufus, and half as in the time of Henry the First.'

The caution, with which the inquiry concerning Saxon architecture ought to be pursued, will be apparent from the following admission:

'Nevertheless it must be allowed to be true, that as modern *pointed Arches* are, in several instances, found to be now placed on antient originally *Saxon Pillars*; so also modern *pointed Arches* are, in some instances, found placed, even on such pillars as were, though indeed much more antient than the Arches themselves, yet nevertheless originally equally *Norman*.'

Remarks, accompanied by plates, on the cathedrals of Winchester, Oxford, Rochester, Canterbury, and Durham, as

well as on many other religious structures of inferior importance, are made by Mr. King: but we must plead the stale apology of want of room for passing them in silence; and we shall regard our duty to this long chapter as performed, if we farther advert to that which is here said to be a hitherto unnoticed circumstance, viz. that *Saxon Ecclesiastical Architecture* has had *three very different stages* or periods, and if we give Mr. K. an opportunity of explaining himself on these heads.

'1. *The early Saxon*;—or dawning Saxon.

'2. *The full Saxon*;—or perfect Saxon.

'3. *The declining Saxon*;—or last Saxon; liable to be confounded with the Norman.

'And the *criteria*, by which Buildings, belonging to these several periods, may be distinguished, are very remarkable.

'The first, and earliest Saxon Architecture, in Churches, draws our attention by the *multitude* of the minute, and *designedly varied* ornaments, of the several parts.—A characteristick specimen of which, may be seen in *Barfreston* Church, in Kent.

'The second kind, appears more bold, and in a more noble style, with *less numerous* ornaments:—but still with much *variety* in the adornments—of which there are most striking instances, in the Cathedral of *Christ Church*, in Oxford;—and in *Canute*'s great Gate at St. Edmunds Bury, in Suffolk.

'And the third, and last kind, is manifested, both by its clumsy, stately magnificence, on a greater scale, and in greater proportions;—and by its having cast off so much of *varied ornament*, that it is difficult to be distinguished from the *first plain Norman*; saving that the *first Norman* had still larger proportions.—And the specimens at *Southwell*, and *Waltham*, are sufficient to elucidate this fact.

'The first species of *Saxon Architecture*, continued from the conversion of Egbert, King of Kent, about A. D. 598.; and from the first building of Archbishop *Theodore*'s Churches, to the time of King Alfred, about A. D. 872.

'The second species of *Saxon Architecture*, continued from the days of *Alfred* through those of *King Canute*; and till the time of the first *Harold*, about 1036.

'And the last species of *Saxon* Architecture, continued from that time, to the Conquest.

'During all these days, a little increasing degree of magnificence, appeared in Sacred Structures;—a little pomp and shew, in lordly Castles;—but whilst tyranny, superstition, and ignorance reigned triumphant, as little comfort as might well be, (except as it were by stealth), was afforded either to gloomy Recluses; (though they had more than the rest of the world):—less to lordly possessors of Castles; eaten up by their rude train of vassals, and dependants:—and still less, to the wretched inhabitants of such hovels, as formed, almost the only *private dwellings* of those days.—Let subsequent ages reflect, and be thankful.'

For the purpose of architectural classification, this division may be useful: but, as conjecture must in a great degree supply the place of records, the arrangement of particular buildings according to these eras cannot be made with confidence.

We proceed now to Chapter III., treating of the odd structures called *Pillar-Towers*, to be found in some of those parts of Ireland which were first converted to Christianity, and in some of the northern districts of Great Britain. Of the original use and application of these lofty isolated edifices, which resemble mere *pillars*, rather than *towers*, history has furnished us with no positive account, and various opinions have been entertained by antiquaries. Some, with Mr. Collinson, (see Archæologia, Vol. I. p. 307) have supposed them to have been places of penance; others that they were erected on stations where a *centinel* was placed with a horn, or trumpet, to watch against marauding invaders; and by others it has been conjectured that they were *bidding Towers*, for a proper officer to ascend, at regular times, to bid to prayer. Mr. K. is inclined to admit that, at different periods, they might occasionally have answered all of these purposes; though in his judgment they were originally erected for those religious recluses, or hermits, who were called, from their living on or rather *in* a hollow pillar, *stylites*. These *pillar-towers* are thus described:

'They are always round;—and built of stone.—Their diameter, at bottom, is generally about fifteen feet; or from forty-two, to forty-eight feet in circumference.—And within, the diameter is seldom more than eight feet.—But they are from seventy, to above an hundred feet in height.—The door of entrance is generally from eight to twelve, or even fifteen feet from the ground; without either steps, or stairs, or any means of ascending up to it, except by an occasional ladder, that might, for security, be drawn up after him, by any one ascending.—All beneath this door is sometimes of solid stone work: but from hence upwards, within side, the whole is hollow, having, in a few instances, stone abutments in the walls, all round, to rest timbers upon, for several floors, or stages;—and every story had a little narrow loop-hole for light, or else a window.—Whilst in the uppermost story of all these, there were four larger windows, manifestly for the sake both of looking out, and of being seen on every side.—Some, however, of the Towers, in whatever manner their floors might be supported, had no such stone abutments.

'In their external form, these Towers gradually diminish, from the bottom to the top; and they are each one generally covered with a stone conical roof.'

After having presented various descriptions and delineations of these curious buildings, Mr. K. adds:

'Such

'Such are the *Pillar-Towers* in *Ireland* and *Scotland*, that have been either delineated, or fully described.—And such an uniformity of Structure is conspicuous in all of them, that they even seem as if they had been built by the same hand.—They are all, nearly about the same height;—the diameters both within and without are nearly the same;—they have nearly the same thickness of wall;—the door of each also, is found at a distance from the ground, except where the ground has been raised;—and there are never found any means of ascending to the top, but by a ladder from floor to floor;—four windows are also always found in the upper story, facing the cardinal points and hardly any elsewhere;—they have the same external appearance very nearly;—and their Architecture, and materials, in general are unlike the architecture, and materials of the Churches near whose remains they stand; and unlike the materials of other buildings in the country.'

Since the first inhabitants of these Pillars are supposed to have been of the sect of the famous *Symeon Stylites*, and since it is thought by Mr. King that Symeon borrowed the idea from the pillars of *Trajan*, *Antoninus*, *Arcadius*, and *Constantine*, the dimensions of these wonderful columns are given; not forgetting the *Monument**, built by Sir Christopher Wren, which measures 202 feet from the pavement, and greatly exceeds in height any of those that were erected by the Roman Emperors. Curious as the particulars in this part of the chapter are, we do not discover the fitness of their introduction.

* 'On this occasion, it is perhaps a justice due to the memory of our great, and celebrated Architect, *Sir Christopher Wren*, to add, that on close examination, and due consideration, his fine Column, the *Monument of London*, appears to surpass all the other Pillars, and Pillar Towers, in the World, in its ingenious construction.—For whilst we admire the magnificence of the Pillars of *Trajan*, and of *Antoninus*; and their immense stones, twelve feet and an half in diameter, and above four feet thick, (which must probably have been conveyed up by artificial mounts; and whose Staircase, hollowed within them, for greater strength, has *a solid Newel, or Pillar, left in the midst*); it ought to be considered, that the Monument of London, whose Shaft is so much higher than either, is not only composed of stones of small scantlings, but has a geometrical Staircase, *without any Newel, or central Pillar*, and apparently as it were hanging in the air;—to which may be added, that the whole Shaft was *fluted*, after it was built;—and yet, notwithstanding the vain fears of some spectators, this column is probably as firm, and as capable of standing for ages, as either of the others.—Nor ought it to be forgotten, that the Staircase, instead of having uneasy deep steps like those, has an easy ascent, the whole way up; the steps being each only six inches deep; and there being about twenty-one steps in each whirl; whereas, in the Pillars of *Trajan*, and of *Antoninus*, there are (according to *Bartoli*) only fourteen steps in each whirl.' See the Parentalia, p. 322, 323.'

In reply to Mr. Gough, who says (Additions to Camden, Vol. III. p. 482.) "It must require a warm imagination, to point out the similarity between Symeon's Pillar, and the Irish Round Tower; the one was solid, the other hollow; the one was square, the other circular;" the present author adverts to the accounts given by Mosheim, and Gibbon of the Pillar-Hermits; and he endeavours to shew, particularly by a quotation from Evagrius, that the pillars were hollow, instead of being solid. By supposing the pillar to have been hollow, the relations concerning these hermits are made more credible, than by imagining that they actually dwelt on the top of solid columns for several years. Indeed, Mr. K. would persuade us that Symeon's life was much more comfortable than it is generally supposed to have been:

'The mode of life adopted by *Symeon Stylites*, has been spoken of, with horror by writers of very different descriptions.—By those, by whom he has been admired;—by certain pious Christians;—he has, with reverential horror, been considered, as one of the most suffering, self-denying, abstracted, humble, heavenly beings, of all mankind;—whilst, by certain even candid, ingenuous, good minds, loathing the fetters of unreasonable superstition;—and still more by infidels, deriding all good intentions, he has with contemptuous horror been considered, as most absurdly, and fanatically, flinging away all the comforts of life; and as voluntarily suffering dire imprisonment, and wretchedness, without any benefit either to himself, or to the rest of the world.—But perhaps neither the praise nor the censure, were rightly bestowed; nor were any of these conclusions just.—Human nature is a most strange compound; and under most uncommon circumstances, finds *resources* in a most astonishing manner.—Retirement, and seclusion, by habit, become not only easy, but pleasant:—and abstract meditation, and contemplation, to a mind that has any energetical powers, soon becomes most delightful.—*Symeon*'s situation, on the top of his high Pillar, placed him in a purer air, and free from the noxious filth of Eastern streets.—It afforded him also, for amusement, a more enlarged, and more constant view of all that passed near the Church of *Mandria*, or in its environs—In an atmosphere so pure, and in such a situation, he could scarce fail of being somewhat of an observant astronomer, and of becoming a delighted spectator of the motions of the heavenly bodies, and of all the phænomena of the atmosphere.—The same cord that brought him up his food, and water, might bring him up such books, and paper writings, as the age afforded.—The very strange, and long-continued, repeatedly lifting up of his arms, and his prostrations, in his devotions, which have been so oddly described, might afford him exercise sufficient for health:—the numerous votaries who came to consult him, and to ask for his prayers; to whom he preached; and with whom he could also certainly audibly converse, might prevent both what the French call *ennui*, and also depression of mind; whether he were a sincere, and good man; or even a crafty impostor; or a mad enthusiast.—In such a mild

a mild climate, where people in general, even delighted to sleep exposed on the roofs of their houses, a few garments would keep him warm.—And a sparing vegetable diet, would be the most wholesome.—On the top of his Pillar, he was not liable to be impertinently molested.—And his very long life, induces a suspicion at least, that he lived a tolerably comfortable one.—It was certainly an odd way of obtaining comfort, but it is by no means certain, that he did not obtain it, beyond his fellows beneath.

'And as to the perilousness of his situation, it was most probably much less than has been apprehended;—for though, through deception of sight, to those standing on the ground, the top of his Pillar has been reported to have been *only about two feet and an half in diameter*, yet that must have been a mistake:—and from the very words used, in the History, of its gradual construction, it must have been large enough, the whole way up, for *a dwelling*, or *abode*;—probably at least seven feet in diameter, within the circular wall at the top.—And in such a situation a person might easily stand, in perfect safety; even though, for the sake of being seen, when preaching, he might mount himself upon an elevated *little column*, or pedestal, of two feet and an half in diameter, (possibly of wood, though somewhat like those on which the Statues of *Trajan*, and of *Antoninus* stood), placed in the midst of his upper flooring; which, after all, might probably be what was meant by the Pillar itself ending at the top in such small dimensions, as *Raderus* describes.'

To an objection of Mr. Molyneux, that these towers were built by the Danes, Mr. King thinks that it is sufficient to reply that no such buildings are known to exist in any part of Denmark. This observation is of some weight: but few of Mr. King's readers, though they may admire his ingenuity, will be satisfied with his explanation.

At the end of the work we meet with an *Appendix, containing Answers to M. P. L. Dutens, in Reply to his second, third, and fourth Publications on the subject of the Invention of the Arch.* A considerable degree of irritation is manifested by Mr. King in this reply. He labours hard in support of his opinion that the Arch was not in use before the time of Democritus, who, he allows, might have been the inventor of it; and with great adroitness he comments on the instances adduced by M. Dutens, in proof of the higher antiquity of the Arch. Little inaccuracies, as to dates, Mr. King admits; yet he strenuously resists the conclusions of his opponent:

'I have confined myself, (says he,) to trace, with caution, *positive facts*.—And from the detailed consideration of the Gates, and Arches, in Rome, in the second Volume of the Munimenta (from p. 269 to p. 273); and from what has been added in the Introduction to this fourth, it appears to me, that almost *every Arch in Rome* may be ascertained to have been either of the very age of *Augustus Cæsar*; or constructed in some subsequent period.—It appears also that

that no Arches are mentioned in our English translation of *Holy Scripture*, except in one chapter, and that by mistranslation;—or by *Homer*;—or by *Herodotus*;—and that no Arches existed at Thebes, or elsewhere in Egypt;—or in Babylon;—or in Persepolis;—or even at Athens;—before the time of *Augustus Cæsar*, or at least before that of *Democritus*.'

This view of the subject, provided that it were correct, would decide the controversy: but Mr. King's knowlege cannot be so complete as to justify so round an assertion. He tells us that the *voûtes*, noticed by travellers who have explored Egyptian Antiquities, were mere *souterrains* covered with flat stones; and so they may be in some instances, though not in all. He may translate the words commonly rendered *vault*, or *arch*, in a manner that is consistent with his hypothesis: but the expressions of Seneca, "*Lapidum curvatura paulatim inclinatorum medio saxo alligaretur*," afford an exact definition of an arch; and though Mr. K. endeavours to deprive Democritus of the invention, by referring it to a period of somewhat remoter antiquity, we cannot suppose that the use of the arch even among the Romans was not older than he imagines. His opinion also that the great arch, at the front of the Emissario of the Alban lake, was erected by one of the Roman Pontiffs, is a mere conjecture.—On the whole, however, Mr. King appears to have been solicitous to arrive at the truth; and we are sorry that the great interrupter of human enterprize has deprived us of the pleasure which we expected from the remaining chapters of the *Munimenta Antiqua*, in which the different styles of Norman Architecture would have been fully displayed and discriminated.

Mo.y.

ART. VI. *Transactions of the Horticultural Society of London.* Vol. I. Parts I., II., and III. 4to. pp. 169. Hatchard, &c. 7/6 each

IN the year 1804, a number of gentlemen associated together for the purpose of encouraging the improved culture of all fruits and garden vegetables, ornamental as well as useful, in order not only to render them cheaper and more abundant, but to produce them in the highest possible state of perfection; and while other public spirited individuals are employed in obtaining the best breeds of all domestic animals, the members of this body, which has lately been incorporated by royal charter, have displayed a commendable solicitude to acquire the completest breeds (if we may so express ourselves) of all esculent plants. We may consider this society as standing in the same relation to the Linnéan, as

that which was instituted for the encouragement of Arts and Manufactures bears to the Royal Society. To the *Linnéan* Society belong the classification and description of *all* the numerous objects of the vegetable world; while the *Horticultural* is restricted in its labours to plants that are cultivated or worthy of being cultivated in our gardens, for use or pleasure, and to the means which must be followed in advancing them to a state of superlative excellence.

Mr. Andrew Knight, who has deservedly attracted the attention of the philosophical world by his many curious experiments for the purpose of illustrating the physiology of plants, and who maintains a prominent figure in these transactions, presents us *in limine* with some *Introductory Remarks*, (which originally appeared in the form of a Report,) *relative to the Objects which the Horticultural Society have in View.* His enthusiasm excites an interest for this new institution; and if we cannot view the subject illumined with all those vivid rays of hope with which he encircles it, we chearfully subscribe to the utility of the pursuit, being fully persuaded that the state of Horticulture in this country is susceptible of considerable advancement. We know that 'the austere crab of our woods has been converted into the golden pippin; and that the numerous varieties of the plumb can boast no other parent than our native sloe.' We know, moreover, that few experiments have been made to obtain new productions of this sort, though some, especially of the apple tribe, are evidently declining; and, since almost every ameliorated variety of fruit appears to have been the result of accident, we may fairly infer with Mr. K. that an ample field for discovery lies open. Much dependence is placed by Mr. Knight on the natural tendency of all plants to adapt their habits to every climate into which art or accident has introduced them, and he specifies instances in corroboration of this fact: but we apprehend that this principle obtains only to a certain extent; and we fear that he is too sanguine when he observes that 'we have some grounds of hope that the vine and peach tree may be made to adapt their habits to our climate, and to ripen their fruits without the aid of artificial heat, or the reflection of a wall.' We read, indeed, in antient records, of the *Vineyards* which once flourished in Britain: but the attempts of moderns to ripen grapes without the reflection of a wall have, for the most part, been abortive. The ingenious reporter seems, in the subsequent paragraph, to hint at the cause of this and similar failures; and he makes a material distinction between plants propagated by division of their parts and by seed;

'By

'By the first of these methods (he says) we are enabled to multiply an individual into many; each of which, in its leaves, its flowers, and fruit, permanently retains, in every respect, the character of the parent stock. No new life is here generated; and the graft, the layer, and cutting, appear to possess the youth and vigour, or the age and debility, of the plant, of which they once formed a part*. No permanent improvement has therefore ever been derived, or can be expected, from the art of the grafter, or the choice of stocks of different species, or varieties: for, to use the phrase of Lord Bacon, the graft in all cases *overruleth the stock*, from which it receives *aliment but no motion*. Seedling plants, on the contrary, of every cultivated species, sport in endless variety. By selection from these therefore we can only hope for success in our pursuit of new and improved varieties of each species of plant or fruit; and to promote experiments of this kind the Horticultural Society propose to give some honorary premiums to those who shall produce before them, or such persons as they shall appoint, valuable new varieties of fruit, which, having been raised from seeds, have come into existence since the establishment of the institution.'

Various other suggestions are thrown out; and the writer concludes with remarking that 'there scarcely exists a single species of esculent plant or fruit, which (relative to the use of man) has yet attained its utmost state of perfection; nor any branch of practical horticulture, which is not still susceptible of essential improvement.' As we coincide with him in this opinion, we hope that the Society will meet with encouragement, and its object be prosecuted with spirit.

The first communication is intitled *An attempt to ascertain the time when the Potatoe (Solanum Tuberosum) was first introduced into the United Kingdom; with some account of the Hill Wheat of India.* By the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K.B. P.R.S. &c.—It is rather unfortunate that the Society should commence its labours with a paper which, as being more agricultural than horticultural, is not strictly within its perview: but it no doubt felt itself complimented by this notice from the President of the Royal Society. — Sir Joseph enters into some details, from which he infers that potatoes were first brought into Europe from the mountainous parts of South America, in the vicinity of Quito.—As to the *Hill-Wheat*, the account is very short, and not very satisfactory. The seeds of the Hill-Wheat from India presented to the Right Honourable Baronet were scarcely larger than those

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'* The diseased state of young grafted trees of the *golden pippin*, and the debasement of the flavour of that fruit, afford one, amongst a thousand instances, which may be adduced, of the decay of those varieties of fruit which have been long propagated by grafting, &c.'

of

of our wild grasses; yet, when sown in the garden, the produce proved to be wheat of the spring kind; and the grains were nearly, if not quite, as large as those of the ordinary spring-wheat. It could not be ascertained from what part of the Peninsula this *Hill-Wheat* (as it was called on the paper containing the seed) was brought: but the following notification is subjoined, for the sake of obtaining information:

'This hill-wheat is no doubt known to some persons, who either are now in India, or have returned from thence into this country; and it is certainly a matter of some importance to know what they can inform us on the subject of it; especially whether this wheat is a cultivated, or a wild plant; as we shall, if the latter is the case, ascertain two of the greatest desiderata of cultivators; the country where wheat grows spontaneously; and the nature of the grain in its original state, when unassisted by the fostering hand of man.'

On the Culture of the Crambe Maritima of Linné, or Sea Kale. By Mr. John Maher, F.H.S.—In this paper we meet with an object strictly within the department of the Society; and Mr. Maher has given plain directions for raising in our gardens this vegetable, which by some persons is much esteemed, and placed almost on a level with asparagus. After having given its botanic description, and the usual places of its habitation on our sea-coasts, Mr. M. describes the mode of deep trenching, manuring, and lightening the soil by the addition of sand, where it is necessary, as well as the management of the plants in the beds, and the blanching them by pots. A plate representing the blanching-pot, made of baked clay, in the shape of a bell-glass somewhat flattened, is subjoined.

Some Hints respecting the proper Mode of inuring Tender Plants to our Climate. By the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Bart., &c. — Mr. Knight's principle of giving hardihood to plants which came originally from a warm climate, and of training them gradually to bear the severity of our own, by propagating not from suckers but from seeds, through a number of generations, is here very well illustrated:

'In the year 1791, some seeds of Zizania aquatica, were procured from Canada, and sown in a pond at Spring Grove, near Hounslow; it grew, and produced strong plants, which ripened their seeds; those seeds vegetated in the succeeding spring, but the plants they produced were weak, slender, not half so tall as those of the first generation, and grew in the shallowest water only; the seeds of these plants produced others the next year sensibly stronger than their parents of the second year.

'In this manner the plants proceeded, springing up every year from the seeds of the preceding one, every year becoming visibly stronger and larger, and rising from deeper parts of the pond, till the last year, 1804, when several of the plants were six feet in height, and the whole

pond

pond was in every part covered with them as thick as wheat grows on a well managed field.

'Here we have an experiment which proves, that an annual plant, scarce able to endure the ungenial summer of England, has become, in fourteen generations, as strong and as vigorous as our indigenous plants are, and as perfect in all its parts as in its native climate.'

This experiment is encouraging, and by a subsequent paper our hopes are strengthened.

On a Variety of the Brassica Napus, or Rape, which has long been cultivated on the Continent. By Mr. James Dickson, F.L.S. V.P.H.S.—This *Brassica Napus* is represented as far superior to the common Turnip in flavour. It is said to enrich all the soups in Germany, and to have so thin a rind as to require merely to be scraped. We are also informed that it is sold by only one person in Covent Garden: but, as the name of this person is not given, the reader will probably wish in vain for this *turnip of turnips.*

Observations on the Method of producing new and early Fruits. By T. Andrew Knight, Esq. F.R.S. &c.—The principles laid down in this paper appear to be judicious; and the results of the trials made by the author, in raising new plants from seeds of the apple and of the vine, are promising: but, as his experiments are yet in their infancy, we shall not here enter into any detail, merely stating this single maxim for the direction of the horticulturist who may wish to imitate Mr. K.

'New varieties of every species of fruit will generally be better obtained by introducing the farina of one variety of fruit into the blossom of another, than by propagating from any single kind. When an experiment of this kind is made, between varieties of different size and character, the farina of the smaller kind should be introduced into the blossoms of the larger.'

On the Cultivation of the Polyanthes Tuberosa, or Tuberose; with its botanical Description and Figure. By Richard Anthony Salisbury, Esq. F.R.S. &c.—After having sung the praise of Horticulture (here termed the younger and more delicate sister of Agriculture) in poetical prose, Mr. Salisbury proceeds to recommend the culture of the Tuberose as likely, in the warmer soils of this kingdom, to repay with profit the labour attending it. The history of this beautiful and fragrant plant is given; and though we have hitherto received its roots from the warmer provinces of North America as well as Italy, Mr. S. adduces his experience to prove that we need not be indebted to foreign countries for this supply. He has cultivated the Tuberose for many years in the open air at Chapel Allerton, and details his mode of proceeding: but we think that his calculations of profit are too liberal. A fine plate is added.

On the Revival of an obsolete Mode of managing Strawberries. By the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. &c.—The Strawberry is supposed to have obtained its name from the straw which was originally laid under the plants when their fruit began to swell, and the advantages of this good old custom are here recapitulated.

On raising new and early Varieties of the Potatoe (Solanum tuberosum.) By T. Andrew Knight, Esq. &c.—It is well known that the early varieties of this plant do not produce seed; and Mr. K., suspecting the cause to be the preternatural early formation of the tuberous roots, proceeded by first washing away the earth to separate from the stem of the plant the runners on which the bulbs are formed, and which are perfectly distinct organs from the fibrous roots. By this process, preventing the strength of the plant from being exhausted at the root, he enabled the stem to flower, and to perfect its seed. The discovery is important, and may be followed by useful consequences. We are therefore glad that this vegetable physiologist purposes to follow up his experiments.

On the Advantages of grafting Walnut, Mulberry, and Chesnut Trees. By the same.—Grafting, as a process for bringing trees into early bearing, is well known: but it is here recommended to be applied to trees which are not usually grafted in this country. The author maintains, on the ground of long experience, 'that the graft derives nutriment only, and not growth, from the young stock in which it is inserted; and that with the life of the parent stock the graft retains its habit and its constitution.'

An Account of some New Apples, which, with many others that have been long cultivated, were exhibited before the Horticultural Society, the 2d December, 1806. By Mr. Arthur Biggs, F.H.S.—We have here a catalogue of ten apples which ripen early, of 53 autumn and winter varieties, (all those which are valuable being marked with a star *) and of 8 new varieties. Mr. B. also particularly describes the *William's Pippin, Padley's Pippin, Bigg's Nonsuch,* and *Minier's Dumpling.*

On the Cultivation of the common Flax (Linum usitatissimum of Linné,) as an ornamental Plant in the Flower Garden. By Mr. John Dunbar, Gardener to Thomas Fairfax, Esq.—Mr. Dunbar wishes to see the Flax supplant 'the cumbersome yellow Lupine' in our flower-border, and he thinks that the advantage to the servants, if not to the master, may be considerable. He tells us, indeed, that, by this simple expedient, a family consisting of five persons has been supplied with all the linen which they required; and he adds directions for the cultivation

tion of the plant, and the preparation of the flax till it is sent to the dressers.

An Account of the Method of cultivating the American Cranberry, Vaccinium Macrocarpum, at Spring Grove. By the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. &c.—The *Vaccinium* promises, by this short report of its first cultivation, on an artificial island, and then on the banks of a pond at Spring Grove, near Hounslow, to form a valuable addition to our horticultural riches, when it can be planted near water in a boggy soil.

'It is remarkable that, during the seven years these *Cranberries* have been cultivated at *Spring Grove*, no circumstance has arisen, from the variety of seasons, from blight, or any other circumstance, that has diminished the quantity of a full crop; the flowers have issued out of their buds, in abundance, in their due season, and fewer of them have been abortive, than in general is the case in other plants. The fruit has gradually swelled and duly ripened without being subject to the attack of any vermin, or to injuries of any kind from the excesses of heat or cold, or from those of wetness or of drought.'

The fruit of the Cranberries grown at Spring Grove is said to be superior in flavour to any that is imported. The contents of the beds are 326 square feet, and they produced in the year 1807 five dozen bottles.

On a new Method of training Fruit Trees. By T. Andrew Knight, Esq. &c.—A plate is annexed to this paper, without which it is impossible to convey an adequate idea of the process here recommended. We shall only remark that, in Mr. K.'s method of treating Peach-trees, very little use was made of the knife during winter; and that the necessity of winter-pruning should be avoided as much as possible.

Observations on the different Species of Dahlia, and the best Method of cultivating them in Great Britain. By R.A. Salisbury, Esq. &c.—This curious paper does not admit of abridgment; and we can merely state that the *Dahlia*, a native of Mexico, was introduced into this country from Madrid by Lady Holland, that it flowers with us in September and October, and is a valuable addition to our ornamental perennial plants. Mr. Salisbury minutely details his mode of raising and cultivating it.

A Description of a Forcing House for Grapes; with Observations on the best Method of constructing them for other Fruits. By T.A. Knight, Esq. &c.—Under a conviction that few of our Forcing Houses are well constructed, Mr. Knight judiciously investigates the principles which should guide us in the erection of them.

'It is well known, (he observes,) that the sun operates most powerfully in the Forcing House, when its rays fall most perpendicularly on the root: because the quantity of light, that glances off without

without entering the house, is inversely proportionate to the degree of obliquity with which it strikes upon this surface of the glass; and it is important to every builder of a Forcing House to know by what elevation of the roof, the greatest quantity of light can be made to pass through it. To ascertain this point, I have made many experiments, and the result of them has satisfied me that, in latitude 52, the best elevation is about that of 34 degrees.'

No upright front glass, he says, ought in any case whatever to be used.—To prevent the bleeding of Vines, he recommends a composition made of 4 parts of scraped cheese and 1 part of calcined oyster-shells, or other pure calcareous earth. If this mixture be pressed strongly into the pores of the wood, the sap will instantly cease to flow; it therefore enables us to take off the largest branch, at any season, with safety.

A short Account of Nectarines and Peaches naturally produced on the same Branch. By R. A. Salisbury, Esq. &c.—Six instances are given of this anomaly, the 5th and 6th of which were seen and examined by Mr. S. He is not satisfied with attributing them to the *pollen* of neighbouring Nectarines, but concludes that these and other variations 'proceed from laws in vegetation, of which we are yet ignorant, but which are immediately connected with the transudation of the sap through the cuticle.'

An Account of a Method of hastening the Maturation of Grapes. By John Williams, Esq.—In order to prevent the return of sap towards the root, and to retain it in the fruit-bearing branches, Mr. W. cut through the cortex and liber of the stem, without wounding the alburnum, and took out a narrow circle, from one to two-eighths of an inch wide; by which process he caused the fruit rapidly to swell, and to ripen earlier than it would on other plants not similarly treated.

Observations on the Culture of the Dahlias, in the Northern parts of Great Britain. By John Wedgwood, Esq. F.H.S.—This short paper, on those highly beautiful flowers, the *Dahlias*, may be regarded as a supplement to the communication, before-mentioned, from Mr. Salisbury, to whom it is addressed. Mr. W. considers these plants to be nearly as hardy as the Potatoe, and is persuaded that they may be naturalized in Devonshire.

Hints relative to the Culture of the Early Purple Brocoli, as practised in the garden of Daniel Beale, Esq. at Edmonton. By Mr. John Maher, F.H.S.—We have here a detail of the particulars of Mr. M.'s mode of cultivating this useful vegetable, which of late years has been greatly improved.

An Account of the Burr-knot Apple. By the Rev. John Simpson.—This species of apple-tree may be propagated by

cuttings which bear fruit in the first year. It is thus described :

'The *Burr-knott* Apple tree is uncommonly productive. My trees never miss bearing, not being so liable to blight in inclement seasons, as other varieties. The fruit is large, its tints resembling the *Ribston Pippin*, and about its size. For culinary uses, it is not inferior to the choicest *Codlin*, and a much better keeper. The tree is not liable to canker, owing, I am persuaded, to its not putting out a tap-root, but spreading its numerous fibres from the knob horizontally, and following the richness of the soil.'

On the Cultivation of Crocuses, with a short Account of the different Species known at present. By A. H. Haworth, Esq. F.L.S. and H.S. &c.—The author here furnishes an account of the mode of raising the crocus from seed, as well as a botanical description of this genus of plants, with 13 distinct varieties. A beautiful coloured plate is added, exhibiting the *Crocus stellaris*.

On the Horticultural Management of the Sweet or Spanish Chesnut-Tree. By the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. &c.—The object of this paper is to recommend the grafting of the Spanish chesnut. The nuts thus produced, though smaller than the imported fruit, are beyond comparison sweeter.

On the proper Construction of Hot-bed Frames. By T. A. Knight, Esq. &c.—It is here recommended, instead of making the back of the frame higher than the front, to place the *hot-bed* on an inclined plane of earth, elevated about 15 degrees; to make the surface of the dung and mould parallel with it; and to adapt the frame, with equal sides, to the surface of the bed. By these means, expence and labour are saved, and the plants throughout the frame are equidistant from the glass. Mr. K. also describes a mode of forwarding grapes, by bending their branches from the wall into a frame over a hot-bed.

A short Account of a new Apple, called the Downton Pippin. By the same.—This new apple is offered as 'an humble imitation of the *Golden Pippin*, its male parent, being formed (as Mr. K. tells us) by introducing the pollen of this variety into the blossom of an apple, most generally known by the name of the *Orange Pippin*.' The Downton Pippin is reported to be exuberantly productive.

On the Forcing-Houses of the Romans, with a List of Fruits cultivated by them, now in our Gardens. By the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. &c.—In this very curious communication, even the attention of the classical reader will be

excited. Sir Joseph Banks acknowleges that he is indebted to Mr. A. Knight for the information, which he acquired from the perusal of Martial, (vid. lib. viii. 14 and 68.) that the Romans enjoyed the luxury of *Forcing-Houses*: but this hint being given, Pliny of course was searched, and farther light was thrown on the subject. It appears that the article, with which these houses were glazed, if the term may be used, was *Talk*, or what we call Muscovy glass *(Lapis Specularis)*; and that the glazier, or person who fitted the panes, was called *Specularius*. The fruits cultivated at Rome in the time of Pliny were *Almonds*, *Apples*, *Apricots*, *Cherries*, *Chesnuts*, *Figs*, *Medlars*, *Mulberries*, *Nuts*, *Pears*, *Plumbs*, *Quinces*, *Services*, *Strawberries*, *Vines*, and *Walnuts*. On this last article the Right Honourable author indulges a little wit; observing that 'in the golden age, when man lived on acorns, the Gods lived upon Walnuts, hence the name *Juglans*, *Jovis Glans*.' Having adverted to the Forcing-houses of the antients, and to the Hot-houses of the moderns, Sir Joseph intimates the improvements of which the latter are susceptible, and promises that the next generation shall enjoy horticultural blessings to which, at present, even the luxurious among us are strangers.

'The next generation will no doubt erect *Hot-houses* of much larger dimensions than those to which we have hitherto confined ourselves, such as are capable of raising trees of considerable size; they will also instead of heating them with flues, such as we use, and which waste in the walls that conceal them, more than half of the warmth they receive from the fires that heat them, use naked tubes of metal filled with *steam* instead of *smoke*. Gardeners will then be enabled to admit a proper proportion of air to the trees in the season of flowering, and as we already are aware of the use of *bees* in our *cherry houses* to distribute the pollen where wind cannot be admitted to disperse it, and of shaking the trees when in full bloom, to put the pollen in motion, they will find no difficulty in setting the shyest kinds of fruits.

'It does not require the gift of prophecy to foretell, that ere long the *Aki* and the *Avocado pear* of the West Indies, the *Flat Peach*, the *Mandarine Orange*, and the *Litchi* of China, the *Mango*, the *Mangostan* and the *Durion* of the East Indies, and possibly other valuable fruits, will be frequent at the tables of opulent persons; and some of them perhaps in less than half a century, be offered for sale on every market day at *Covent Garden*.'

On the Management of the Onion. By T. A. Knight, Esq. &c.—We are told that Mr. K. sows the seed of the *Spanish* or *Portugal Onion*, in the spring, under the shade of a fruit tree in a poor soil; and that the bulbs, which do not exceed the size of a large pea, are taken up in autumn, and planted out in the succeeding spring at equal distances. Onions have been

raised, in this way, which often exceed five inches in diameter.

An improved Method of cultivating the Alpine Strawberry. By the same.—This process consists of sowing the seed of the Alpine Strawberry on a moderate hot-bed in the beginning of April, and removing the plants, as soon as they have acquired sufficient strength, to beds in the open ground. They will begin to blossom after midsummer, and afford an abundant late autumnal crop. Mr. K. thinks that this Strawberry ought always to be treated as an annual plant.

Observations on the Form of Hot-houses. By the Rev. Thomas Wilkinson.—Mr. W. shews, on mathematical principles, that the inclination of the roof should = 34°. A diagram is subjoined.

On some new varieties of the Peach. By T. A. Knight, Esq. &c. — In the experiments here detailed, the object of the author was to obtain hardy early varieties; and he is encouraged to hope, even from the results of his present trials, that, in successive generations, the *Peach-tree* may be so hardened as to be naturalized to our climate.

We have thus distinctly, though briefly, noticed each paper in the Transactions of this recently-formed Society. Sir Joseph Banks, more than once, applies to it the epithet *useful*; and from these specimens it will be seen that it is an institution of some promise. It may be a means of stimulating exertions in this department of art; and by recording and diffusing the knowlege of hints which might otherwise have been lost, it may tend to render our gardens more beautiful, more various, and more productive. Under such an impression, we do not feel ourselves disposed to apologize for the length of this article; nor to withhold the expression of our hopes that the society will proceed with zeal in the prosecution of their researches.

Mo-y.

ART. VII. *Observations on Madness and Melancholy;* including practical Remarks on those Diseases; together with Cases, and an Account of the morbid Appearances on Dissection. By John Haslam, late of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and Apothecary to Bethlem Hospital. 2d Edition, considerably enlarged. 8vo. pp. 345. 9s. Boards. Callow. 1809.

THIS treatise was originally published about eleven years ago, and was noticed by us in one of our former volumes *:

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* Vol. 29. N. S. p. 344.

but

but the present edition contains so much new matter, that we regard it as intitled to make its appearance a second time before our readers. Mr. Haslam formerly proposed a definition of insanity, to which we took the liberty of objecting, and we are happy to find that it is now withdrawn. He has also refrained from substituting any other in its place, and we think that he has done wisely; since it is certain that no definition, which has yet been proposed, has been found to attain the object of a definition; *i. e.* to give, in a few words, a description which shall include every mode of the thing defined, while it excludes every other object. This difficulty seems, at first view, not easy to explain; for we agree with the author that, notwithstanding the 'contrariety of sentiment that has prevailed concerning the precise meaning of the word madness, medical practitioners have been sufficiently reconciled as to the thing itself; so that when they have seen an insane person, however opposite their definitions, they have readily coincided that the patient was mad.' Mr. Haslam's conclusion is probably correct; 'that the thing itself is, generally speaking, sufficiently plain and intelligible; but that the term which represents the thing is obscure.' This sentiment he elucidates at some length, by critically examining the derivation and original import of the several terms which are now used to designate the different forms of insanity; and by shewing that, as applied to this disease, they are used metaphorically or analogically, and are, of course, liable to those inaccuracies which always attach to such modes of expression. So far we coincide with Mr. Haslam: but we cannot give our entire assent to a metaphysical speculation in which he afterward indulges himself. After having stated it as his opinion, that the human mind 'does not possess all the powers and faculties with which the pride of man has thought proper to invest it,' (an opinion which is probably correct,) he proceeds to the length, if we do not mistake his meaning, of denying to the mind *any* powers or faculties. His ground for this conclusion we shall give in his own words:

> 'If mind were actually capable of the operations attributed to it, and possessed of these powers, it would necessarily have been able to create a language expressive of these powers and operations. But the fact is otherwise. The language, which characterizes mind and its operations, has been borrowed from external objects; for mind has no language peculiar to itself.'

The answer to this argument appears to us most obvious; that, in the original formation of all languages, those things would first acquire names, which were the objects of the external senses; and it would not be until society had ad-

vanced to a state of considerable refinement, that man would have leisure to attend or give names to his internal feelings. At length, however, this state would arrive; and he would be obliged either to invent terms, or to borrow from the external world such words as seemed to bear some kind of analogical resemblance to what was passing within him. In all instances, the latter is the more easy and natural process; and so it was found on the present occasion. This circumstance has led us to the use of metaphorical terms in many cases, in which we have almost lost sight of the original source whence the metaphor was derived; and when we come to apply these terms to express any train of complicated events, we are frequently involved in obscurity. It would carry us too far to follow the author through all his attempts to shew the corporeal origin, if we may so call it, of many of the terms which are now almost exclusively applied to mental phænomena. Many of them are sufficiently obvious, and must be allowed to be just: but, though we should admit that association is derived from the operation of matching or assorting together similar or connected objects, and that reasoning 'in most languages strictly implies numeration, reckoning, and proportion,' yet we do not see how this can in any repect tend to prove that the mind is not possessed of the faculties of association and of reasoning.

To the practical part of his work, Mr. Haslam has added several new cases, and has by them still farther confirmed the fact which he formerly announced, that 'madness has always been connected with disease of the brain and of its membrane.' This we regard as a very important physiological discovery, and such as must eventually throw light on the treatment of insanity, though at present it does not appear that any practical advantage has been derived from it. Indeed, while we feel our obligation to Mr. H. for having ascertained the fact so clearly, we must observe that he has not perhaps made all the use of it which might have been expected from him. We may also remark that, considering the great opportunities for information which he possessed, we might have hoped that he would have attempted to investigate, with more accuracy than he has employed, the relative state of the different parts of the brain in the several varieties of the disease. It would have been satisfactory to have learned from him what had been the result of his inquiries on this point, even although they had been fruitless.

Perhaps no circumstance connected with insanity should more excite our interest than its causes; since, in proportion as its cure is difficult or uncertain, we should studiously avoid

any

any thing which may tend to its production. Mr. Haslam seems to have paid considerable attention to this subject, being fully aware of its importance; and we may therefore rest securely on his authority. He divides the causes into the two classes of physical and moral:

'Under the first, are comprehended repeated intoxication: blows received upon the head; fever, particularly when attended with delirium; mercury, largely and injudiciously administered; cutaneous eruptions repelled, and the suppression of periodical or occasional discharges and secretions; hereditary disposition, and paralytic affections.

'By the second class of causes, which have been termed *moral*, are meant those which are supposed to originate in the mind, or which are more immediately applied to it. Such are, the long endurance of grief; ardent and ungratified desires; religious terror; the disappointment of pride; sudden frights; fits of anger; prosperity humbled by misfortunes: in short, the frequent and uncurbed indulgence of any passion or emotion, and any sudden or violent affection of the mind.'

The author has accurately examined whether the effect of the lunar influence could be perceived in the state of his patients, and he decides in the negative. His conclusion respecting the hereditary propensity to the disease seems fully justified by experience; and he states 'that, where one of the parents has been insane, it is more than probable that the offspring will be similarly affected.'—We have already noticed the fact announced by Mr. H. that, in confirmed insanity, dissection has always shewn a morbid state of the brain and its membranes; and he now inquires whether this morbid state is to be regarded as the cause or the effect of the disease. He embraces the latter opinion, in which we are disposed to coincide with him; yet we must confess that "much may be said on both sides."

In the chapter intitled 'probable event of the disease,' we meet with many interesting particulars. Women, we learn, are more subject to the disease than men, nearly in the proportion of 5 to 4; a circumstance which seems in part to depend on the functions peculiar to the female sex. In the course of ten years, 80 patients came under Mr. Haslam's care, whose disease followed the puerperal state: but 50 of them were perfectly restored. The probability of recovery from insanity is greater in proportion to the youth of the patient: but it is remarked that, at any age, the prospect of recovery is very small, after the disease has continued for any length of time. It most frequently makes its appearance between the ages of 30 and 40.—On the subject of *religious*

madness, we meet with some remarks which we consider as too important to be withholden from our readers:

'What can be expected, when the most ignorant of our race attempt to inform the multitude; when the dregs of society shall assume the garb of sanctity and the holy office; and pretend to point out a privy path to heaven, or cozen their feeble followers into the belief that they possess a picklock for its gates? The difficulty of curing this species of madness will be readily explained from the consideration, that the whole of their doctrine is a base system of delusion, rivetted on the mind by terror and despair; and there is also good reason to suppose, that they frequently contrive, by the grace of cordials, to fix the waverings of belief, and thus endeavour to dispel the gloom and dejection which these hallucinations infallibly excite.

'Although the faction of faith will owe me no kindness for the disclosure of these opinions, yet it would be ungrateful were I to shrink from the avowal of my obligations to methodism for the supply of those numerous cases which have constituted my experience of this wretched calamity.'

Mr. Haslam's observations on the management of the insane are very generally deserving of attention, although we are not aware that any of them can be regarded as either new or peculiar. We regret that he has chosen to indulge in a long train of sarcastic abuse of Dr. Cox. If Dr. C. has committed any errors, or fallen into any absurdities, it was surely more for the interest of science that they should be pointed out in a serious and candid manner; and certainly his proposal of the horizontal swing is not so palpably ridiculous as to merit no farther trial or consideration.—With respect to the remedies for insanity, the principal circumstances noticed by Mr. Haslam, which can be considered as adding to our knowlege on the subject, are that insane persons are not particularly constipated, or difficult to be purged, though in some cases their stomach and bowels are found to be more than usually inert: but that when this disposition takes place, the removal of the constipation brings back the healthy state of the digestive organs. Mr. H. is not friendly to the administration of emetics; nor does any article of the *materia medica* appear to have a specific salutary power over insanity.

As to the general merits of this production, we are disposed to estimate them highly. Though it cannot be considered as in every part equally satisfactory, nor to be as perfect as perhaps the author, by a little more attention, might have made it, yet we regard it as on the whole the most useful treatise that has been published on this melancholy topic.

Bos.

ART. VIII. *Essay on Warm and Vapor Baths;* with Hints for a new Mode of applying Heat and Cold, for the Cure of Disease, and the Preservation of Health. Illustrated by Cases. By Edward Kentish, M. D. Physician to the Bristol Dispensary. 8vo. pp. 114. 4s. 6d. Boards. Mawman. 1809.

THE subject of bathing, medically considered, is not only interesting and important, but it has occasioned much diversity of opinion in this country; and it is so connected with false hypothesis, that some acuteness is requisite to ascertain the real value of the experience which we possess respecting it. Several of our medical philosophers, among whom the late Dr. Currie holds a high rank, have contributed materially to elucidate the effects of temperature on the living body; a question which must be solved, before we can obtain any certainty respecting the operation of the warm bath in the cure of disease: but, without detracting from the merit of either Dr. Currie or his contemporaries, it may be remarked that they rather opened the path for future investigation, than arrived at absolute certainty on the several disputable points which fell under their consideration. We may indeed go farther, and assert that, in the present state of physiological knowlege, many questions which are involved in this discussion can be answered only imperfectly; and that the utmost which we can expect, from those who undertake to illustrate this subject, is that they should diligently collect facts, and, separating them as much as possible from all extraneous matter, should store them up, in order that at some future period, when they shall be sufficiently multiplied, a more regular system may be formed from them.

We cannot, however, compliment Dr. Kentish on the success with which he has treated the question. Many of the remarks which he brings forwards are common-place and trifling; hypothesis and fact are indiscrimately blended together; and the effects of the warm bath are magnified to such an extravagant degree as to produce scepticism rather than conviction. The volume commences with a description of the baths that have been used by different nations, particularly by the antient Romans, by the Russians, and the Turks; among whom the practice of bathing has been carried to the greatest extent, both as a remedy for disease and as a luxurious gratification. To a person who is totally unacquainted with the subject, some little amusement may be afforded by these details: but they contain nothing that has not been often repeated before, or that might not be obtained from the most obvious sources.—Chapter 4th presents the author more in the

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the character of an original writer; and here he undertakes to give an account of the functions of the skin. The consideration of these functions occupies, however, a small part of the chapter which bears this title; and we must confess that the few remarks which are offered do not impress us with a very favourable opinion of Dr. K.'s acquirements. He observes that, as the vapor bath has an extensive influence on cutaneous diseases, 'it may be necessary to take a cursory view of that most important and extended organ the skin;' and this organ, as it is called, is thus described. 'This integument, which covers the whole body, is formed by the minute terminations of all the superficial and exhalant arteries, nerves, veins, and absorbents of the system; this is covered by the colouring, or blushing membrane, and defended from the too rude impressions of external agents by the scarfskin.' Our medical readers will immediately perceive the errors which enter into this description. Although arteries, veins, nerves, and absorbents, may have their termination in the skin, they do not compose its substance; the basis of the skin, as is well known, is a membranous body, consisting of condensed cellular matter; and as to the colouring or blushing membrane, we acknowlege that we are ignorant of its existence. We are next told that 'the principal use of the skin is to carry off from the system the redundant heat and moisture.' Now, though we believe that this operation may be performed at the surface of the body, by vessels which pass through the skin, yet this is clearly not the office of the skin itself, but of the secreting and exhaling organs which pass through it; the use of the skin, properly so called, is very different: but to give support to the perspiratory vessels may indeed be one of the accessory purposes which it serves.

In the course of this chapter, the author remarks, and with justice, that in cases in which sweating is to be produced, it would be better to effect this object by means of external heat, applied under the form of the warm or vapor-bath, than by the administration of what are called sudorific medicines; which produce perspiration in a less direct way, and probably may have the effect of weakening the stomach. We cannot, however, keep pace with Dr. Kentish, when he proceeds to assert positively that the operation of mercury consists in its 'increasing all the secretions;' and when, assuming this as a settled point, he argues from it that, in those diseases in which mercury is employed, half the quantity usually administered might be spared, by conjoining it with the warm bath.

We have before noticed that Dr. K. falls into the common error, of attempting to excite the interest of the reader in behalf

behalf of his favourite remedy by exaggerating its effects; and in proof of our assertion we shall make a quotation which, our readers will perceive, refers to the frequent use of the warm bath by the Russians:

'It is not to be doubted that the Russians owe their *longevity*, their *robust* state of health, their little disposition to certain *mortal* diseases, and their *happy* and *cheerful* temper, mostly to these Baths. The perspiration, the most *important* of all secretions, must continually go on better in a body constantly kept soft by bathing. A great number of impurities which, privily, lay in us the train to tedious and dangerous distempers, are timely removed, ere they poison the blood and the juices. All exanthematic diseases are abated by bathing: consequently, then, the small-pox; and if this dreadful disorder be actually less fatal in Russia than in other countries, this phænomenon needs not to be attributed to any other cause than their great use of Vapour-Baths.'

Of a publication by the Honourable Basil Cochrane, in reference to the subject here discussed, some report will be found in the Catalogue part of this Review.

Bos.

ART. IX. *Institutes of Biblical Criticism;* or, Heads of the Course of Lectures, on that Subject, read in the University and King's College of Aberdeen. By Gilbert Gerard, D.D., Professor of Divinity, and one of His Majesty's Chaplains in Ordinary for Scotland. 8vo. pp. 471. 10s. 6d. Boards. Murray. 1808.

WHEN comparisons are made between the three learned professions, it is not unusual to hear the remark that abilities and extensive knowlege are necessary to make a good physician or a good lawyer, but that "any thing will do for a parson." We notice this vulgar error in order to remonstrate against and to correct it. Abundantly more is requisite to the endowment of a well-informed and sound theologian, than is generally supposed not only by the people at large, but even by those who become candidates for the sacred ministry. The clergyman who is anxious to be erudite, to trace to its original sources the divine fountain of which he is to dispense the waters, and to pursue the several ramifications of biblical criticism, in order to qualify himself for the complete illustration of the Holy Scriptures, must be a laborious and persevering student; and he must embrace a compass of literature which is not necessary in other professional walks. So far from saying that any body will do for the pulpit, we should rather adopt the language of St. Paul, with reference to the duties of the sacred office, "*Who is sufficient for these things?*" and we should

should say this not merely in regard to the discharge of the clerical office, but even with respect to the qualifications for the profession.

Scarcely at any period was it more necessary than it is at present to offer this observation; and if we wanted an illustration of its justice, we could not find one more suited to our purpose than this volume of Institutes of Biblical Criticism: which affords at once a view of the very wide field over which the able Christian theologian must range. He who consults these pages will perceive the folly of those who decry human learning in matters of religion, and the stupidity of encouraging uneducated persons to declaim from the pulpit as expositors of scripture. Whoever adverts to the history, geography, and chronology of our religion, — to the dispensation from which it emanates, — to the age and country in which it was first preached, — to the manner in which it has descended to our times, — to the languages in which the books that must be the guide of our faith and practice were originally written, — to the several versions into which they have at different eras been rendered, — to the state of antient MSS. — to the works of the Fathers and ecclesiastical historians, — to the labours of commentators, — to the controversies which have agitated the church, — and to many other branches of inquiry, that are essentially involved in the occupation of a biblical student, — will not need to be told how very laborious must be the task of that divine, who is bent on examining fully and deeply for himself; and how deplorably inadequate those men are to correctly appreciate the scope and explain the contents of the O. and N.T., who scarcely know even their own mother-tongue.

It is not impossible that the representation which we have given may operate to discourage some indolent and unanimated clergymen from the critical study of the Scriptures: but let us add that, though the task be arduous, yet, if it be commenced with right views and pursued with a suitable spirit, it will amply repay for all the toil which it imposes. A biblical student acquires a very comprehensive knowlege of the most curious as well as the most interesting of all compositions; he is not obliged to take the sense of the Scriptures on the authority of others; he proceeds *ad integros fontes*; he feels the beauty and the force of scripture-language; and he resolves many of the difficulties which puzzle and confound others. In fine, he will be "*able to give a reason for the hope that is in him*," and will build his faith on the noblest and surest ground.

As a *carte du pays*, this volume of Institutes is of great value; and while it displays the learning and acumen of Pro-

fessor Gerard, it affords more than a thousand hints to the student *. The theological lecturer, also, will prize it as a text-book; to which use the author himself has applied it. The illustrative criticisms are drawn from the best sources; and the information which is communicated, though displayed with all possible conciseness, is the result of much application and extensive research.

By way of Introduction, Dr. G. lays down the following data:

'1. As the Christian religion is of divine authority, and as the Scriptures are the authentic record and revelation of it, every Christian, and especially every Christian teacher, is concerned to understand the Scriptures, and obliged to study them with care.

'2. The importance of understanding the Scriptures has never been denied, though the means of attaining to it have not always been sufficiently attended to, even in the schools of Theology.

'3. The Scriptures can be understood, only by being studied and interpreted according to the genuine principles of criticism; and a regular deduction of these principles, illustrated by examples, seems to be the best method that can be taken for assisting students in the study of the Scriptures.

'4. It is from the Scripture, rightly understood, that all just opinions in religion are to be derived; but misinterpretation of it is the certain cause of error.'

After these preliminary observations, the author proceeds to a division of his subject into two distinct heads; part I. including *the sources of Biblical Criticism*, and part II. *the objects of Scripture Criticism.* Under the first general division, he notices, in eight separate chapters,—the Manuscripts and Editions of the Books of Scripture,—the Oriental Languages,—the Kindred Languages,—the Versions,—the Circumstances relating to the Books of Scripture,—the Comparison of Scripture with itself,—the History and Manners of the Age and Country to which Scripture-History refers,—and the Opinions and Learning subservient to its Elucidation.

Among the *objects* of Scripture Criticism, are enumerated, in the same number of chapters,—Corrective or Emendatory Criticism,—the Explication of separate Words,—the Explication of Combinations of Words,—Difficulties in the Circumstances relating to the Books of Scripture,—reconciling Scripture with itself,—seeming Contradictions to Reason and Morality,—seeming Contradictions to History and Matters of Facts,—and complicated Difficulties. Each of these chapters is moreover subdivided into distinct sections.

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* The remarks of Dr. G. are numbered, and form above 1200 separate paragraphs.

On

On the subject of MSS., and the necessity of correcting the printed editions by MSS., many important remarks occur; and the Professor is of opinion that 'a much more correct edition of the Scriptures than any extant may be obtained.'

In favour of the Samaritan Pentateuch, which is an independent copy of the original Hebrew text, Dr. G. adduces several various readings to prove that 'the Samaritan seems to be, and, on several accounts, may naturally be expected to be, preserved more correct than the Hebrew; and therefore will supply many emendations or preferable readings.'

In order to give the student some knowlege respecting the language of the N. T., these hints are offered:

'In the language of the New Testament, all the dialects occur; but the attic is predominant, and runs through all the books of it.

'Wysii Dialect. Sacra.

'But, the writers of the New Testament being Jews, would, in writing Greek, naturally run into the idioms of their own language, or introduce hebraisms or syriasms; which have, however, been, without reason, denied by some, and reckoned much more numerous than they really are, by others.

'Pfochenii Diatrib: de Linguæ N. T. Puritate.
Fechtii Præf. in Raphel. Michael. ib. § 7—10.
Macknight, ib. Marsh's Michael. ch. 4. § 5, 6.

'Such idioms can be illustrated only from the oriental languages, the study of which is thus strongly recommended, as being necessary even for understanding the New Testament; and from the version of the 70, which is written in the same idiom.

'There are in the New Testament, some Hebrew and Syriac words.

'Michael. ib. § 6.
(Heb.) Αμην, "truly, so be it." Glass. Philol. l. 3. t. 5. can. 16. Heylin. Theolog. Lect. p. 131.
Αλληλυια, "Praise the Lord." Glass, ib.
Ζιζανια, "Tares."
(Syr.) Μαμμωνας, "riches," Erasm. Drus. Grot.
Μαραν αθα. Some, "The Lord is come;" others, "In the coming of the Lord;" others, "Excommunicated in the highest sense," which was termed שמתא; others, in general, "Devoted to destruction."
Critici in 1 Cor. xvi 22. Tremell. Vorstius. Locke. Macknight.'

From this passage, we must perceive the great importance of the Oriental languages to the biblical scholar; and the subsequent remarks of the Professor, with his illustrations, will place this matter in a still stronger light:

'The kindred languages afford the best (and where the ancient versions vary in translating them, the only) means of determining with

with certainty, the signification of such words as occur but once, or very seldom, in the Bible.

'The kindred languages point out the true meaning of some words, whether primitives or derivatives, to which wrong significations have been affixed in the Bible.

'Isa. xviii. 2. "Whose lands the rivers בזאו;" supposed irregular for בוזו, (which is found in one MS.) Eng. "have spoiled;" but this irregularity unexampled. (Schult. Gram. p. 491.) Arab. בזא, "to lift itself up, to bring under it." Hence, "have brought under them," or "overflowed." But בזא Syr. and בזא Chald. signifies "a teat;" so that the verb may mean, "have nourished;" very applicable to the Nile fertilizing Egypt.

Lowth's Isaiah in loc.

'The kindred languages enable us to discover all the senses of words, some of whose significations only have been collected from the Bible, though others of them would better suit particular passages; and, by this means, both explain these passages, and illustrate the connection between roots and their derivatives.

'In particular, these languages discover the primary signification of many roots, even such as are most commonly used, whose secondary senses alone have been attended to, though the primary sense would throw light on some texts.

גדל very common, rendered "to be great." But Arab. (prim.) "to twist." Hence גדילים Deut. xxii. 12. "fringes." 1 Kings vii. 17. "chain-work," i. e. twisted threads.

(Sec.) 1. "Sinewy, brawny, compact, elegant," in the human make. Exod. xv. 16. "By the greatness (brawniness, firmness) of thine arm, they shall be as still as a stone."

2. "To struggle, wrestle, fight." Job vii. 17. "What is man that thou shouldst *magnify* (struggle) with him?"—context.

Schultens, Defect. ling. Heb. § 202, &c.

צדק, very common, "to be just;" but this only a secondary sense. Arab. (prim.) "To be stiff, inflexible;" also "to be inflexibly straight." Hence metaphorically, "to be just, true." Isa. xlix. 24. "Shall שבי צדיק (literally) the captives of *the just one* be delivered?" but the devil is here meant. Eng. "the *lawful* captive;" but this would be unjust. "The captives of the *inflexible*, rigid, or inexorable one."

Schultens, ib. § 217, &c.

Eccles. vii. 16. "Be not *righteous* overmuch."—objectionable. "Be not too rigid or inflexible."

Schultens, ib. Hammond, Grotius, Patrick, and others, in loco.'

Our

Our readers will recollect the observations of Dr. Paley *, on Eccles. vii. 16. He would probably have subscribed to this version of it.—It is the opinion of the Professor that 'the Greek version of the LXX. was one of the principal means of recovering the Hebrew language; and that it often gives a juster sense of Scripture, than what is generally put on them.' He instances Gen. vi. 3.; which is given by the LXX. "My Spirit shall not always *remain*" (καταμεινη); instead of *strive*, as in our version. We shall add, also, that the difference of reading in the LXX. version is often striking; and we need only refer to Ps. lxxxiv. 6., where (not to notice other dissonances) instead of "*the rain also filleth the pools*," we read "*the Lawgiver will give blessings*;" ευλογιας δωσει ὁ νομοθετων; which the Vulgate literally renders "*Benedictionem dabit Legislator.*"—Protestants are apt to undervalue the Vulgate: but Dr. G. remarks in its favour that 'it is, in general, skilful and faithful, and often gives the sense of Scripture better than more modern versions.'

As an inducement to the consultation of the Syriac version, this notice may suffice:

'The Syriac version being very literal, ascertains clearly the readings which it followed; by reason of its antiquity, it gives great authority to these readings; and it has preserved some which appear to be genuine.

Walton, Prol. 13. § 19. Marsh's Michael. ib. sect. 9.

2 Sam. xv. 7. "After *forty* years Absalom said." From what?—Syr. "four." supported by Vulg. in several MSS. and Sixtus's edit. of Joseph. Ant. 7. 9. Grot. in loc. Ken. Diss. 2. p. 357. Diss. Gen. § 31. p. 46. n.

'Prov. xxvi. 4, 5. "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him. Answer a fool *according to his folly*, lest he be wise in his own conceit." Contradictory—no reason.—Syr. "*According to thine own wisdom.*" So Chald. באולתו repeated from the preceding line. Ken. ib. p. 359.'

Respecting the antient versions in general, this principle is laid down;

'Being the works of men who had several advantages above the moderns for understanding the original languages, and the phraseology of Scripture; and those of the Old Testament, in particular, being one of the principal means by which the knowledge of the Hebrew was recovered, and by more careful attention to which, it might be rendered still more perfect; there can be no doubt but they

* See our account of his Sermons in the Review for September last.

generally

generally give us the true sense of Scripture, and that often in places where we could scarcely have discovered it by any other means.'

Many judicious rules are given for the comparison of parallel passages, from which we can copy only these specimens:

'The signification of words and phrases ought to be taken from those places, in which it is ascertained by the connection, or the nature of the subject; and accordingly interpreted in places where there is nothing that can thus ascertain it.'

'Eccles. xi. 1. "Cast thy *bread*" (לחמך) or "corn," (Ruth i. 6. Isa. xxviii. 28.) "upon the waters," (מהים) or "moist ground," (Isa. xv. 6 xxx. 23. xxxii. 20. Jer. xlviii. 34.) "and after many days thou shalt find it." connection, v. 4, 6. beautiful, and a strong argument.'

'When a word is used sometimes in a literal, and sometimes in a metaphorical sense, it must not be supposed that it implies, in the latter case, all that it implies in the former case; similitude, in some one respect, being sufficient for the propriety of metaphor.

'It is particularly absurd, and of pernicious consequence, to deduce articles of faith from metaphorical expressions, supposed to be meant in all the strictness of their literal sense.'—

'It is not from one such passage, taken singly, that a doctrine or precept ought to be collected, as has been too often the practice; but, from them all, taken in conjunction, consistently explained, with such limitations of the expressions in each, as the rest shew to be necessary.'

In Part II., the kinds of false readings are largely discussed, and arranged under distinct heads with explanatory instances; and rules for judging concerning false readings are subjoined. Readings are divided into four classes: 1. *Certainly genuine*; 2. *Probably genuine*; 3. *Dubious*; 4. *Certainly wrong*, or probably wrong. This chapter concludes with remarks on a passage which has of late years occasioned much controversy, and which by most modern critics is placed in the last of these classes. Dr. G. cautiously refrains from giving any opinion, though he furnishes ample references:

'Readings, certainly or very probably false, ought to be expunged from the editions of the Scriptures, and departed from in versions of them, however long and generally they have usurped a place there, as being manifest corruptions, which impair the purity of the sacred books.

'Among texts, the true reading of which is controverted, the most remarkable in several respects is 1 John v. 7, 8. where the words, εν τω ουρανω, ὁ πατηρ, ὁ λογος, και το ἁγιον πνευμα, και ὁυτοι οἱ τρεις ἑν εισι· και τρεις εισιν μαρτυρουντες εν τη γη, are by some held to be genuine, and by others to be spurious; and all the kinds of evidence, both external and internal, having been urged on both sides, it is only by a fair comparison of them all, that it can be determined, in which of the four classes this reading ought to be placed.'

On the signification of words and the usages of nouns, verbs, and particles;—on syntax, idioms, phrases, and figures,—numerous hints are suggested: but, though we admit the justice of the remarks, we cannot, in every instance, subscribe to the explanation of the passage which is quoted as an illustration. At p. 376, Dr. G. very justly observes that 'a difficulty sometimes arises from pronouns referring, not to the nearer, but to the remoter antecedent;' and he instances Heb. xii. 17.

"Though he sought *it* (αυτην) earnestly with tears."—to the nearest antecedent μετανοια—"his own repentance." Clar. and perhaps Eng.—or "good effects of repentance" did not profit him. Zeger. Cast. Grot.—or, "his father's repentance." J. Capel.—or, to remoter antecedent ευλογιαν, "his father's blessing." Glass. Gen. xxvii. 34.'

Μετανοια does not in this place signify what is commonly understood by *Repentance*, and the difficulty of the passage results from this circumstance. A note subjoined by Hutchinson to the Cyropædia, Cap. I. *in initio*, clearly illustrates the point:

"Μετανοειν *proprie est* Sententiam mutare, aliter, quam antea, judicare; *adeoque, cùm* μετανοια *ipsa nihil aliud sumet quàm* mutatio sententiæ, *observare licet Anglicanos interpretes Apostoli verba* Heb. xii. 17, *minus rectè redidisse. Ibi enim vox* μετανοια *non penitentiam, quasi Esavo negatam, sed Isaaci retractationem frustrà quæsitam, denotat: ut hic sit loci sensus, Esavi neque precibus neque lacrymis Isaacum permoveri potuisse, ut quæ modò Jacobo promiserat, ea jam beneficia in ipsum transferenda revocaret.*"

This being clearly the sense of the passage, no doubt can exist respecting the antecedent to which the pronoun αυτην refers.

The difficulties specified in the latter chapters of this work are discussed with a degree of brevity which is not satisfactory: but perhaps the author enlarged more on these points in his lectures, and thought that he should make his volume too bulky if he suffered himself to launch out into laboured discussion. The whole is terminated with this judicious and temperate address to his pupils:

'The subject which I have now brought to a conclusion, naturally leads me to recommend to you the study of the Scriptures, as your principal employment. They are the only pure sources of theological knowledge. Could we understand them perfectly, our knowledge would be complete, and free from error. If we study them with care, we cannot fail to acquire all necessary knowledge, and to escape every dangerous error. Theology, derived immediately from them, will be simple, and wholly practical. If you would understand them, read them in the original languages, and be at pains to qualify

qualify yourselves for doing so. Take the assistance of versions, but rest not in them; compare them with one another, and with the original. Take the assistance of commentators, but follow them not implicitly. When they are so very numerous, it is astonishing that so little can be learned from them; one copies merely from another. You may be satisfied with a few of the best; it would be waste of time to attempt consulting them all. The best of them often dwell on what has little difficulty, or is of little moment; and, points on which you would wish most to be satisfied, you will often find passed over by them all. The best have their prejudices and nostrums; and, for supporting them, distort and wrest many passages. Often you will find light from critical essays on particular texts, when general and voluminous commentators afford you none. Let not your explications be dictated by your accidental present notions; but founded on, and tried by, well-established general principles of sound criticism. It is for assisting you in discovering these, that the view which I have given, both of the Sources and of the Objects of Scripture Criticism, is intended. Above all, fix a proper and upright aim in studying the Scriptures. Your sole aim should be, to discover the real sense of every passage, and to express it fairly and distinctly. The real sense of a passage is, not any sense which the words will bear, nor any sense which is true in itself; but only that which was intended by the writer in that particular passage. You should endeavour to exhaust the full sense of a passage, but without unduly stretching it, or finding more in it than was intended. Avoid an ostentation of learning, in explaining Scripture. Never affect certainty and decisiveness, where the sense is doubtful. Take care not to overlook the obvious meaning of texts, in searching for ingenious, far-fetched, or mystical meanings. Read the Scripture, not with a view to support your own preconceived opinions from it, or to stretch, or explain it away, so as to agree with them; but lay aside all prejudices, that, by reading it, you may perceive how far your opinions need to be corrected. Be not prepossessed in favour of any sense, merely because it is the most received, the most approved, or the most popular. Be not biassed, by your particular turn and temper, to adopt the sense which is most agreeable to them. Especially reject all such loose interpretations as would favour vice. If you cannot clear up the more difficult parts of Scripture, make yourselves well acquainted with the plain parts of it; imbibe their purifying spirit, and be careful to act agreeably to them.'

Throughout every part of the preceding Institutes, the sentiments recommended in this concluding exhortation are displayed. With all his learning, Dr. Gerard is not dogmatical: but his object is to promote a critical examination of the Scriptures, in order that their meaning may be ascertained, as well as their authenticity established; and that the doctrines and duties of our religion, being clearly displayed, may more powerfully operate as a rule of life.

Mo-y.

ART. X. *Letters between the Rev. James Granger, M. A.* Rector of Shiplake, and many of the most eminent literary Men of his Time; composing a copious History and Illustration of his *Biographical History of England.* With Miscellanies, and Notes of Tours in France, Holland, and Spain; by the same Gentleman. Edited by J. P. Malcolm, Author of *Londinium Redivivum*, from the Originals in the Possession of Mr. W. Richardson. 8vo. pp. 530. 10s. 6d. Boards. Longman and Co.

THIS volume makes us acquainted with the course by which that truly valuable work, the *Biographical History of England* *, attained the perfection and accuracy which so eminently distinguish it. The present compilation, as the editor remarks, cannot fail to be received as a valuable accompaniment to that performance, the correctness of which it so strongly attests: but this is by no means its only praise; it boasts of independent value, and is in itself highly amusing and informing. Numerous anecdotes of a very curious nature, several of which are not to be found in any of the modern collections, are interspersed among these letters. Something of the intrigues of authorship, also, and of the remuneration on which it may reckon, may be learned from them.

Mr. Granger had pointed out, perhaps rather unadvisedly, some faults in the "Historic Doubts:" but how haughtily and resentfully must the service have been received, to depress the pen of Granger to the degree which we perceive in the last of the following letters to Mr. Walpole:

"Honoured Sir,

"I believe there was never yet an infallible author, or a book published without an error. I have, even in your Works, where I least expected to find any, met with here and there one. May I, Sir, take the liberty (with all humility I ask it) to mention them, as they may be corrected in a table of errata, or in a subsequent edition? It was with the greatest difficulty I prevailed upon myself to use this freedom, which perhaps may be thought a preposterous way of expressing my great veneration for the Author of the Anecdotes; but, if I have done wrong, it was from an error of judgment, not from any fault of my will. I, indeed, very naturally concluded that what would be the greatest condescension in you, with respect to my blundering performance, would be the height of presumption in me with regard to your work; which, notwithstanding a few escapes, is, among its other excellencies, to be admired for its correctness.

"But Tom Pidgeon, my parish clerk, got the better of this reasoning: he told me, the other day, before the congregation, that I had named the wrong Psalm; such is my love of truth, that, though Tom is a great blunderer himself, I could not find in my heart to be angry with him. This incident at once overcame my

* See Rev. Vols. 41, 52, and 54.

timidity,

timidity, and I reasoned thus with myself. Surely Mr. Walpole, as the disparity is greater betwixt us, will no more be displeased with me, than I was with Tom Pidgeon.

"I have, together with the errata, taken occasion to mention a few other particulars, as they occurred to me. I hope, Sir, you will not think of returning the prints, which are much at your service.

"I am, &c.

JAMES GRANGER."

'That Mr. Granger had nearly marred his preferment with this ill-advised list of errata, and "other particulars," may be inferred from his answer to Mr. Walpole's letter, written in return to the above.

"Honoured Sir,

"I return you a thousand and a thousand thanks for your last letter. The excellence of your understanding, and the goodness and gentleness of your nature, are apparent in every line of it. For this and your other favours, which are all of an extraordinary kind, I shall ever love, esteem, and honour you. Permit me, good and worthy Sir, to assure you, that not a syllable of that impertinent letter, to which you vouchsafed me an answer, was dictated by spleen or resentment; it was the effect of timidity, and I fear a little unsubdued vanity, which was scarce known to myself. I shall endeavour to root out every fibre of these ill weeds from my nature, as, if they are permitted to grow, they will not only render me unhappy, but ridiculous; though I am more in danger of vanity than ever, from your abundant candour in favour of my work. I hope, Sir, that you will, as you see occasion, continue to inform me of my errors of any kind. I shall ever listen to you with the utmost attention; and thank and bless you, for your kind and gentle reproofs. That every blessing, here and hereafter, may attend you, is the ardent wish and prayer of,

"Honoured Sir, &c.

JAMES GRANGER."

Nothing shews more strongly the merit of Mr. Granger's work, than the circumstance of its engaging equal respect and countenance from persons of all parties. Mr. Davies, his bookseller, in one of his letters to him, thus writes:

"Mr. Hollis called on me about a week after you left London. He promises to do all in his power to serve you; but you must never expect to find him at home, without first leaving your name at his house, and giving him a previous notice of three or four days.

"Mr. Gough, who wrote the 'Topographical Anecdotes,' may be of service to you. George Steevens, Esq. has promised to point out some necessary additions *to*, and corrections *of*, your History; you may direct a letter for him to be left at my house; he is a little volatile, and the compliment of begging his assistance may possibly fix him."

Mr. Granger having been indebted to Mr. West in the execution of his work, the editor has been induced to give the following account of that gentleman :

'James West, M. A. of Baliol College, Oxford, was M. P. for St. Alban's, and a joint Secretary of the Treasury ; he was patronized by the Duke of Newcastle, who has been rendered so ridiculous as a politician in one of Smollett's works ; however, he gave Mr. West substantial proofs of his ability in serving a friend, by obtaining for him a pension of 2000l. per annum. Mr. West was a Vice-president of the Society of Antiquaries ; Treasurer, and afterwards President, of the Royal Society : he died July 2, 1772. His residence was the now magnificent hotel, at the West end of the Piazza, Covent-garden. The sale of his books lasted 24 days, prints 13, coins and medals 7, plate and various articles of curiosity 7, paintings, drawings, and framed prints 4.'

Of the correspondents of Mr. Granger whose communications are here given, the principal are the late Dutchess of Portland, Lord Orford, Sir John Fenn, the Rev. John Bowle, Richard Owen Cambridge, Esq., Rev. Sir John Cullum, Mr. Huddesford, Mr. Sturges, Mr. Hammond, Dr. Lort, Rev. John Disney, Richard Gough, Esq., Dr. Ducarel, Rev. William Cole, Lord Holland, &c. In this enumeration, Mr. Davies, his bookseller, ought not to be passed over ; since his letters are not only creditable to his frankness and liberality as a man of business, but possess as much interest as any in the collection. He is called, in a letter from Mr. John Campbell, "a gentleman dealing in books ;" and it is to be regretted that his liberality met not with better reward.

We must not attempt to make many selections from the numerous anecdotes which abound in this work, and must be contented with advising our readers to consult the volume itself. Though the concluding part of it consists of scraps and shreds, it will still be seen that they attest the excellent judgment and fine *tact* of Mr. Granger. Two or three specimens will give the reader some idea of the sort of entertainment which they supply.

'The greatest number of Roman dramatic writers, &c. flourished betwixt the end of the first and the third Punic wars.

'They were Livius, Andronicus, Nævius, Ennius, Pacuvius, Accius, Cæcilius, Plautus, Afranius, Terentius, Lucilius.

'Polybius was one of the first that introduced the Grecian learning, who with about one thousand others came to Italy about U. C 587.

'The Roman youth in Cato's time were so charmed with the harangues of Carneades, Critolam, and Diogenes, that they had from that time a most vehement desire to the Grecian literature, which Cato did all he could to discourage. These orators pleaded before

the

the senate, for the mitigation of a fine imposed on the Athenians, for taking Oropses in Bœotia.

'Mummius, upon the taking of Corinth, told the servants who carried the fine pictures and statues taken there, that, if they lost any, they should find some one in their room.

'Scipio Æmylius was intimate with Panætius Primus of the Stoicks, and with Polybius and Terence.

'After Cato's death, learning encreased, and the art of luxury, &c.

'Soon after, Crassus and Antony, two great orators, flourished, who were succeeded by Sulpitius, Cotta, and Hortensius.

'Sylla was a man of letters; but Marius illiterate, and a discourager of learning.

'Lucullus, one of the greatest scholars of his time. He succeeded Sylla, and was deprived of his command by Pompey.

'Soon after, Cicero brought the Roman eloquence to its highest pitch.

'In the characters of Cicero and Atticus we see the most excellent patterns of the public and retired life.

'Crassus, Pompey, Anthony, Cæsar, Cato, and Brutus, were the most refined scholars of their age.

'Brutus epitomized Polybius, and employed himself about it the very day before the battle of Philippi.

'Augustus excelled in almost all kinds of polite learning. He wrote the History of his own Life, an exhortation to Philosophy, a book of Hexameters. And Livy wrote in the Augustan age.

'Tiberius, Claudius, and Nero, affected learning; but in Tiberius's time it began to decline.

'Tacitus, Suetonius, and Pliny, flourished in Trajan's time; as did Plutarch. Soon after, Quintilian.

'Sir William Temple observes, that all the Latin books till the end of Trajan's time, and all the Greek till the end of M. Antoninus's reign, have a true value. He says, that the purity of the Latin tongue ended with Paterculus.

'In the next age to Trajan, Learning continued more and more to decline, till it was at last quite extinct by the irruption of barbarous nations.

'Cornelia, Aurelia, and Actia, mothers of the Gracchi, Julius Cæsar, and Augustus, are reported to have undertaken the office of governesses to noblemen's children. They took care that nothing should be said or done before them to corrupt their minds, and were particularly cautious to speak their language in its greatest purity.

'The Roman masters of eloquence made it a frequent practice to translate the most eminent Greek orators, as Lysias, Hyperides, Æschines, Demosthenes. The Roman youths not only declaimed under their masters, but even after they had gained a considerable name in the Forum.

'They recited their Poems, &c. to a select company of friends, and sometimes before a more numerous audience.'—

'In Pliny's Natural History we find a curious receipt for making the Roman Friendship; a cordial that was universally esteemed in

those days, and very few families of any credit were without it. Pliny says, that they were indebted to the Greeks for this receipt, who had it in the greatest perfection.

'The old Roman Friendship was a composition of several ingredients, of which the principal was Union of Hearts (a fine flower, that grew in several parts of that empire), sincerity, frankness, disinterestedness, pity, tenderness, of each an equal quantity: these all mixed up together with two rich oils, which they called perpetual kind wishes, and serenity of temper. The whole was strongly perfumed with the desire of pleasing, which gave it a most grateful smell: it was a sure restorative in all sorts of vapours. The cordial thus prepared was of so durable a nature, that no length of time could corrupt it; and what is very remarkable, says our author, it increased in weight and value the longer you kept it.

'The moderns have greatly adulterated this fine receipt; some of the ingredients are not now to be found; but what they impose on you for Friendship is as follows: outward profession, a common weed that grows every where, instead of the flower of Union; a desire of being pleased, a large quantity of self-interest, convenience, and reservedness, many handfuls; a little of pity and tenderness (but some pretend to make it up without any of these two last), and the common oil of inconstancy, which, like our linseed oil, is cold-drawn every hour, and serves to mix them together. Most of these ingredients being of a perishable nature, it will not keep, and shews itself to be counterfeit, by lessening in weight and value.'

For the use of the partisans of "No Popery," we transcribe a passage from Mr. Granger's notes of his Tour in Holland.

'Christians of every denomination have their places of public worship at Amsterdam; as, Brownists, Famists, Anabaptists, Arminians.

'Calvinists only possess the public Churches, and they only have their ministers maintained by the publick. The Arminians are rather a party in the State than a Sect in Religion.

'Religion in Holland never made a cloak for any ambitious or interested design; but all go on very easily in their own way, without the least breach of friendship and good neighbourhood, &c. In short, they live together like citizens of the world.

'Though the Dutch are supposed to have more shipping than all the world besides; yet the materials of their ships are none of them of their own growth. Their native commodities are only cheese, butter, and earthen ware.'

If our sage rulers would so order things, that what is here predicated of the Dutch might be said of our fellow subjects of both islands, the British empire might then indeed defy its powerful and ever vigilant enemy!

We must not conclude without making our acknowlegements to Mr. Malcolm, for the service which he has rendered to the public, by rescuing from oblivion the interesting remains

which now lie before us: but we cannot say that the arrangement and mode of printing them are always the most lucid. The Index, also, should have been alphabetical.

Jo.

ART. XI. *A Biographical History of England*, from the Revolution to the end of George I.'s Reign, being a Continuation of the Rev. J. Granger's Work; consisting of Characters disposed in different Classes, and adapted to a Methodical Catalogue of engraved British Heads; interspersed with a Variety of Anecdotes, and Memoirs of a great Number of Persons not to be found in any other Biographical Work. The Materials being supplied by the Manuscripts left by Mr. Granger, and the Collections of the Editor, the Rev. Mark Noble, F.A.S. of London and Edinburgh, Rector of Barming in Kent. 3 Vols. 8vo. 1l. 7s. Boards. Richardson, Darton and Harvey, &c.

THE long-indulged expectations of the public, with respect to the late Mr. Granger's papers, have at last been fulfilled; and these MSS having been examined and digested, the design of the collector has been adopted by Mr. Noble in the volumes before us: which promise to desultory readers a feast at once salutary, various, and abundant, and consequently well adapted to the prevailing taste of the present age.

The practice too much followed in these days, of publishing accounts of living persons without their consent, cannot be sufficiently reprobated: but every lover of decorum will applaud the more becoming feeling expressed by the industrious editor of this work, on the behalf of the proprietors of these manuscripts; who, in bringing down the accounts for which Mr. Granger had collected materials, were determined 'not to come so close on our own times, as to excite uneasy apprehensions or sensations in the minds of those, whose families and near connections might be affected by the relation.'

Mr. Noble speaks with becoming diffidence of his execution of this arduous undertaking; and he may be assured that he cannot hope more to conciliate the good will of such of his readers as possess taste and discrimination, than by professing sentiments of veneration for his predecessor, and by treading in his steps. Mr. Granger, he truly observes, 'was really enamoured of his object: he wrote of it *con amore*, and with a felicity of selection, and a conciseness of expression, which it is much easier to admire than to imitate.'

In selecting a few specimens, we hope to enable our readers to judge not only of the comparative claims of the original writer and his continuator, but of the entertainment and instruction

instruction which they may expect to derive from these volumes.

The great respectability of the person, the just criticism on a neglected work of inestimable value, and the anecdote which it contains of a never-to-be-forgotten public character, induce us to set the following at the head of our sketches:

'JOHN SCOTT, S.T.P. *prefixed to* "*Works*," *V. Gught.*

'JOHN SCOTT, S.T.P. *prefixed to his* "*Practical Discourses*," 1701; 8vo. R. White.

'Dr. Scott, one of the highest ornaments of the English church, was a native of Chippenham, in Wiltshire; his father, Mr. Thomas Scott, was a grazier, having no interest to procure his son's preferment, and perhaps not suspecting the greatness of his abilities, he bound him apprentice to a tradesman in London; but this act being contrary to the bent of his mind he quitted the situation, and went to Oxford as a commoner in New Inn, 1657, being then about nineteen years of age; his tutor was Mr. Chistopher Lee. His attainments were great in logic and philosophy. He did not wait for a degree, but going into holy orders returned to London. He became successively chaplain to St. Thomas, Southwark, perpetual curate of Trinity in the Minories, rector of St. Peter's le-Poor, in Broad-street, and prebendary of Bloomsbury, in St. Paul's cathedral. It was a matter of doubt which was superior, his abilities or his piety. The bishop of London and the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, proud of so great a man in the capital, patronized him; the university of Oxford, in 1685, added the degree of bachelor and doctor in divinity. His seasonable sermons against popery procured him from William III. the church of St. Giles in the Fields: the bishopric of Chester, and afterward another bishopric, as well as the deanery of Worcester and a stall at Windsor, were offered but refused by him, as he was scrupulous in taking the oath of allegiance and doing homage. Dying March 10, 1694-5, he was buried in the rector's vault in St. Giles's church, honoured, beloved, lamented. No clergyman has been more highly valued as a preacher, as a writer, or as a christian, than Dr. Scott; but his studies and duties hastened his death. In his "Christian Life," he raises men to the rank of angels, if they believe what the Scriptures require, and live according to its precepts. *He* practised what he wrote. His works have been republished in eight volumes. How much is it to be lamented that his "Christian Life" is not shortened so as to be read by all ranks of people. In nothing else, I am certain, has the religion of Christ, the sublimity of his doctrines, the joys of the blessed in a beatified state, been so well displayed. Dr. Scott attended the dying lord-chancellor Jeffries, and awakened his conscience to all the horrors which the many crimes he had committed deserved; the only excuse he offered for his severities in the west was, that they were less than satisfied the hard-hearted James. Jeffries, bad as was his character, possessed great sense. In sending for Dr. Scott he evinced this, and more—a desire to fit himself, as far

as

as he could, to ask for that mercy in heaven, which he had so often denied on earth *.'

As we cannot doubt that the history mentioned in the note would excite great interest, and meet with an extensive circulation, we advise Mr. Noble to lose no time in giving it to the world. He is well founded in ascribing to the unprincipled Chancellor great sense; since his decisions, when unbiassed by interest or influence, have been always regarded by lawyers as ranking among the most able and sound of any in their books.

The subsequent delineation evinces that Mr. Noble is untainted by obsolete bigotry; and in his commendation of Dr. Kennett's conduct, we cordially join:

'GEORGE HICKS, S.T.P. *fol. R. White ad vivum*, 1703.

'GEORGE HICKS, S.T.P. *prefixed to his "Sermons,"* 1713, 8*vo. R. White ad vivum.*

'GEORGE HICKS, *in the Oxford Almanack*, 1733.

'Dr. Hicks, of a Yorkshire family, was sent to Oxford, and there chosen a fellow of Lincoln college; leaving the university he became chaplain to the Duke of Lauderdale, and afterwards to Charles II. who made him a prebendary in Worcester cathedral, and, October 13, 1683, he was installed dean of Worcester. Dr. Hicks applied himself with great care to this important charge, obliging the copyholders to a regular payment of their fines, and settling with the bishop the stated terms of residence for the prebendaries; he also drew up a form of constitutions for the better government of the king's school in this city. Unfortunately all these services were interrupted by the Revolution, during which he was a warm supporter of James II. He was deprived February 1, 1691, for declining to take the oaths to William and Mary. He would have been suffered to retire in peace with the other nonjurors, had he not imprudently written a paper, addressed to the members of his cathedral, in which he declared his rights still valid; and affixing it at the entrance of the choir, it was thought so great an insult on the government that the attorney-general was ordered to prosecute him for it. Strange that he, whose brother John Hicks, a non-conformist minister, was executed for being concerned in Monmouth's rebellion, should become the champion of the nonjurors!—Changing his clerical garb, he took shelter at Ambroseden, or Amersden, in Oxfordshire, under the roof of Dr. White Kennett, so violent a revolutionist as to be called the very "Judas of a dean." The greatest good resulted from the association of these two opposites; it was impossible for them to converse on religion, consequently their general topic was literature.—Dr. Kennett requested Hicks's assistance in learning the northern European languages; this laid the foundation of what will ever be greatly to the honour of Dr. Hicks, his "Thesaurus." A work as useful

* I have, in MS. the history of the chancellor Jeffries, with an account of his family, written by myself.'

as splendid; which gained him the acknowledged palm of Anglo-Saxon literature, and that which is connected with it, the Runic and other northern dialects. At length Dr. Hicks was recognized under his secular habit at Ambroseden, he therefore wished for privacy elsewhere. They were thus obliged to part. Dr. Kennett must ever be applauded for giving an asylum to his old college friend. Dr. Hicks went to London, where he lived in obscurity, until Lord chancellor Somers, who venerated learning and perfectly knew him, procured a *noli prosequi,* May 16, 1699, which freed him from all personal danger: but nothing could teach him moderation. The greatest object of his hatred was Archbishop Tillotson, whom he treated as an "atheist," and next to him Bishop Burnet, whom he never scrupled to call "lyar." The primate, meek, and humble, used no acrimony in reply; but the prelate charged his adversary with being all but a "papist." As to Hicks, with a constancy which the stake could not have shaken, he made Heaven's gate so narrow that it could admit none but a few nonjurors to pass. His polemical works, like most others of that kind, are now almost forgotten; but his "Thesaurus" will be immortal. He died December 13, 1715, and was buried on the 17th, in the cemetery of St. Margaret's, Westminster. Whilst we lament his narrow bigotry, we must exult in his learning, which has done honour to his country.'

Very creditable to the writer's stock of impartiality, and very much in the spirit of his admired model, are the sketches which Mr. Noble draws of the more celebrated non-conformist divines of the period. For instance:

'PHILIP HENRY, M. A. *Ra. Holland delin. R. White sculp. prefixed to his Life, by Matthew Henry his son,* 1712, 8vo.

'Son of Mr. John Henry, gentleman to Philip Earl of Pembroke, who procured him the places of keeper of the Orchard at Whitehall, and page of the back stairs to the Duke of York. He seemed born to be a courtier, as his father was until his death, for he had for his sponsors Philip Earl of Pembroke, James Earl of Carlisle, and Katherine Countess of Salisbury. Nearly of the same age with the princes, afterwards Charles II. and James II. he was often admitted to play with them. He had his education at Westminster, where he was a king's scholar, and at Christ Church, in Oxford, he took orders, and officiated for some years at Worthenbury, in Flintshire, where he continued, under a sort of toleration till August, 1662, when refusing to conform, he was, by the operation of the Bartholomew act, ejected from that cure; but, fortunately for himself, he had an estate at Broad-oak, where he chiefly resided. His non-compliance was a great injury to the church, for he was eminently qualified as a divine, a scholar, and a gentleman, for one of its ministers. It was singular that at no time did he violate his oath of allegiance to Charles I. nor did he insult the government under the royal brothers. He even joined in and presented an address to James II. acknowledging his clemency in granting universal toleration. At the Revolution his name was inserted in the commission of peace, but he refused acting as

as a magistrate, confining himself to his ministerial functions. This exemplary man was born August 24, 1631, and died June 24, 1696. When his old master, Dr. Busby, said to him, "Pri'thee, child, what made thee a non-conformist?" he replied, "Sir, you made me one; for you taught me those things that hindered me from conforming." Busby had been during the civil war, and until the Restoration, one who spoke not for prelacy. Mr. Henry always read a portion of Scripture before morning and evening prayers began, which he explained; and after the prayers were ended, his only son, the well-known Matthew Henry, and his four daughters, were obliged to retire and write down the exposition they had heard, so that each had a comment on the whole Bible in their own hand writing. This pious and valuable man died at the age of sixty-five.'

We would not vouch for having sagacity enough to distinguish every where between the master and the disciple, but we think that the hand of the former is discernible in the account of Judge Holt:

'Sir JOHN HOLT, knt. *fol. G. Kneller p. R. White sc.* 1689.

'Sir John Holt, born December 30, 1642, at Thame, in Oxfordshire, was a wild and unmanageable youth; his frolics were numerous at Abingdon school, and Oriel College, Oxford, where he was entered a gentleman commoner. After his good sense had subdued the propensity to juvenile indiscretion, his application to his studies was unwearied. Called to the Bar, he was made a serjeant at law Feb. 9, 1684, appointed recorder of London, knighted in February 1685-6, by James II. and made king's serjeant April 22, 1686. Objecting to the rapid strides of James against law and liberty, he resigned his recordership in April, 1687. The king having withdrawn himself, some settlement of the government became necessary, and it was well known that the prince of Orange came for, and would receive nothing less than the crown; the conditions were to be determined by the convention. Holt was chosen by the peers, at St. James's, with Maynard, Pollexfen, Bradford, and Atkinson, to assist them in their consultations. His abilities raised him at once to the highest office in the Court of the King's Bench, being appointed lord chief justice, April 17, 1689, which he held twenty one years, a circumstance never known before nor since. To an offer made him of presiding in chancery, he said, "I never had but one cause in Chancery; and, as I lost that, I cannot think myself qualified for so great a trust." The law and justice were never administered with more effect than when he presided in the King's Bench, and all their terrors sat on his brow *. It happened that a poor old decrepid creature

'* In the Banbury cause he told the House of Peers, that they ought to respect the law which had made them so great. Presiding over which, he should disregard any of their decisions; he would not even condescend to give them a reason for his conduct. In the same manner he set the Commons at defiance; *they* sent to demand reasons,

creature was brought before him as a sinner of great magnitude, "what is her crime?" "Witchcraft." "How is it proved?" "She uses a spell." "Let me see it." A scrap of parchment was handed to him. "How came you by this?" "A young gentleman, my lord, gave it me, to cure my daughter's ague." "Did it cure her?" "O yes, my lord, and many others." "I am glad of it.—Gentlemen of the Jury, when I was young and thoughtless, and out of money, I, and some companions as unthinking as myself, went to this woman's house, then a public one; we had no money to pay our reckoning, I hit upon a stratagem to get off scot free. On seeing her daughter ill, I pretended I had a spell to cure her; I wrote the classic line you see, so that if any one is punishable it is me, not the poor woman the prisoner." She was acquitted by the Jury, and rewarded by the chief justice. This most exalted character, comprising every excellence, died of a lingering illness, March 10, 1710-11, aged 67; and was buried in the church of Redgrave in Suffolk. He married a daughter of sir John Cropley, by whom he had no child. The Judge published, 1708, sir John Keyling's Reports, with annotations of his own, with three modern cases of great importance.'

We must also present our readers with the account of another sage of the law;

'Sir JOHN POWELL, knt. *la. fol. W. Sherwin sc.* 1711.

'Sir JOHN POWELL, knt. *mez.*

'This upright judge was a native of Gloucester, which city he represented in Parliament 1685, called to the coif, April 24, 1687, appointed a justice of the Common Pleas, April 21, 1686, at which

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reasons, he gave none:—the Speaker and a select number of the House went in person to the Court of King's Bench, his answer was, "I sit here to administer justice; if you had the whole House of Commons in your belly, I should disregard you; and if you do not immediately retire, I will commit you, Mr. Speaker, and those with you," "Where there is a right," said he, "there is a remedy;" when it was urged that no injury could be done by a returning officer refusing a legal vote, against the sense of the other Judges, he directed a satisfaction to be given. Neither his compeers, nor the houses of parliament separately could bend, or, even both of them collectively, intimidate him; his invincible courage was equalled only by his incorruptible integrity. Queen Ann was compelled to dissolve the Parliament, that the acrimony between the two Houses might cease. A mob assembling before a trepan-house, in Holborn, the guards were called out: "Suppose," said he, "the populace will not disperse, what will you do?" "Fire on them," replied an Officer, "as we have orders." "Have you so! then take notice, that if one man is killed, and you are tried before me, I will take care that every soldier of your party is hanged." Assembling his tipstaves, and a few constables, he went to the mob and explained to them the impropriety of their conduct; at the same time promising that justice should be done against the "crimps," the multitude dispersed.'

time

time he had received the honour of knighthood, and was removed to the court of King's Bench, April 26, in the following year. He sat in that court when the seven bishops were tried, and declared against the king's dispensing power. In revenge for this conduct, James II. deprived him of the office of judge, July 2, 1688; but William III. placed him again in the Common Pleas, October 28, 1695. Queen Ann advanced him to the King's Bench, June 18, 1702; where he sat until his death, at Gloucester, on his return from Bath, June 14, 1713. He was never married. Jane Wenham was tried for witchcraft before him; her adversaries swore she could fly: "Prisoner, can you fly?" "Yes, my lord." "Well then you may; there is no law against flying." She lost her character, but saved her life, for he would not convict even by confession. The effects of faith in witchcraft have been horrid beyond compare. A martyrology for witchcraft would be more voluminous than that of Fox's for religion. The acts of the inquisition are not more diabolical than were our laws against witchcraft. James I. is said to have repented of the numbers of poor creatures he had suffered to be destroyed, by authority of law, particularly in Scotland. Judge Powell laid aside his gravity with his robes of office, and was in private life a chearful old bachelor. "I went," says Swift, "to the lord treasurer's, Oxford, and among other company found a couple of judges, one of them, judge Powell, an old fellow with grey hairs, who was the merriest old gentleman I ever saw, spoke pleasant things, and chuckled till he cried again."

We find the Judges of this period employing their influence in counteracting, not in inflaming, vulgar prejudices; and how much more honourable was this conduct, than is that which has been displayed by a majority of their successors at the close of the past century, who not only encouraged and sanctioned but joined in the mischievous clamour against the freedom of trade in provisions! Justice, however, calls on us to observe that neither the Chancellor of that day, nor the learned Lord who now fills that station, and who then presided in a Court of common law, gave any countenance to the delusion; and that the present Chief-Justices were not then on the bench.

It were easy to multiply extracts, and to accumulate observations on them: but from those which we have made, the reader will have a sufficient insight into the nature, plan, and style of this work, and will be able to estimate its merits as compared with those of the valued labours which Mr. Granger himself lived to finish.

In no line of literature are a spirit of philosophy, and a freedom from every kind of bias and prejudice, more indispensible than in that of biography; and the high degree in which Granger was in this respect qualified for such a province is well known to all his readers. Indeed, striking traces of a

dispassionate temper, of an unbiassed judgment, of an ardent love of truth, and of devotion to its dictates, occur in every page of his performance. As we were aware of the strong prejudices and avowed bias of his continuator, we own that it was with some suspicion that we took up the present volumes: but, on a perusal, we have found much less ground for complaint on this score than we had expected; and Mr. Noble's good sense seems to have suggested to him that he would not meet with the success of his model, and that he would never be allowed to stand by his side, without emulating the qualities which have given such celebrity to his book: If occasionally nature shews herself in the work before us, the author appears to have put forth no common efforts to controul his habitual turn, to discipline his feelings, and to give expansion to his views; and if we look in vain through his pages for the native candor, the fine taste, the chaste diction, and the consummate execution, which render the compositions of Granger so attractive, we witness a great portion of his diligence, a laudable endeavour to imitate his comprehensive conciseness, and a commendable desire not merely to steer clear of gross partiality, but to administer substantial justice. The reader will therefore find these volumes highly interesting; and though they contain many slight and are not free from some material errors, it should be recollected that in order to avoid these a writer must possess the zeal, the industry, and the impartiality of a Granger, and must like him devote a life to the pursuit.

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ART. XII. *Remarks on the Reform of the Pharmaceutical Nomenclature; and particularly on that adopted by the Edinburgh College*; read before the Liverpool Medical Society. By John Bostock, M.D., &c. &c. 8vo. pp. 53. 1s. 6d. Longman and Co. 1809.

IN the year 1792, the College of Physicians of Edinburgh published an edition of their Pharmacopœia, in which the nomenclature, as far as it regarded the substances derived from chemical preparations, was regulated by the principles suggested and followed by the illustrious Bergman. The mention of this circumstance induces us to express our opinion that the system of chemical nomenclature which was adopted by the Swedish philosopher, when clothed in a Latin dress, approaches more nearly to the idiom of that language, than the modern nomenclature of the French, with all its advantages. Thus, *soda vitriolata* is not less precise than *sulphas sodæ*; it is but little longer; and it is a purer Latin expression. In throwing out this hint, however, we by no

no means wish to see a language employed by the physician or the apothecary which was different from that of the chemist, merely for the purpose of preserving the purity of the Latin tongue; nor to recommend the sacrifice of uniformity, perspicuity, and simplicity, in the nomenclature of the different departments of medical science, to an affected or even a real admiration of a dead language.

In 1801, the Edinburgh college expressed their approbation of a proposed new edition of the Pharmacopœia: but this edition, for what reason we are ignorant, was not published till the year 1803; and in 1805, within the short period of two years, a republication, or rather another edition of the Pharmacopœia, containing farther alterations, and the correction of some errors, was undertaken by the same learned body, and presented to the world. It is to the last two editions of the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, that the observations of Dr. Bostock chiefly refer.

The subject which Dr. B. has brought under discussion, it must be acknowleged, is of very considerable magnitude; and we are gratified to find that he has treated it with candour, moderation, and judgment. After some general remarks on the improved chemical nomenclature of the French philosophers, as well as on the reform which was introduced by Linné into the different departments of Natural History, the author proceeds first to consider the propriety of extending the new nomenclature to pharmacy, and then inquires how far the alterations made by the Edinburgh college are to be regarded as improvements.

On the first point, Dr. B. is of opinion that the arguments, which may be adduced in favour of the new chemical nomenclature, are not applicable to medicine; and he asserts that, on the contrary, other weighty considerations would induce us to adhere in most cases to the names already in general use: because, in the science of medicine, (which, he observes, treats only in an indirect manner of the constitution and chemical properties of the substances of the Materia Medica, and considers less the ingredients of which they are composed than their effects on the living body,) it seems to be of comparatively little importance whether the names by which they are designated should suggest correct notions of their composition; and because, it is added, the number of new substances introduced into the *Materia Medica* is very small, and, in the few instances in which a body is for the first time employed in medicine, it must have been previously well known by some familiar name. In order to give a dis-

tinct view of the author's reasonings on this subject, we quote the following passage :

'The alteration of pharmaceutical terms is not merely unnecessary, it is positively injurious. In the administration of medicines three sets of men are concerned, the physician or surgeon who prescribes, the apothecary who compounds, and the druggist who sells them. It is obviously of the first importance that these persons should all speak the same language, and it may be confidently asserted, that there are instances, in which the contrary custom might be productive of fatal consequences. Now, without meaning to insinuate what is disrespectful towards any branch of the profession, let me ask, whether it is probable, that the apprentices of druggists or apothecaries, whether it is probable that druggists or apothecaries themselves, I may add, whether it is probable, that a large part of physicians and surgeons, who are engaged in the most extensive practice, but who are unacquainted with the improvements in modern science ; is it probable, I ask, that these persons will adopt either the Linnæan or the Lavoisierian nomenclature ? Can we reasonably expect, that chamomile will ever be stiled *anthemis nobilis*, or that red precipitate will ever be called *oxidum hydrargyri rubrum per acidum nitricum*, by any but professors in universities, or by young practitioners just emerging from the walls of a college ? What then will be the consequence ? Some individuals, particularly among those entering into the profession, will employ the new nomenclature, and it will probably be adopted by a considerable number of the scientific young men, who may henceforth complete their studies at the university of Edinburgh ; while the great majority of physicians and surgeons, either unable or unwilling to abandon their old habits, with the whole class of apothecaries and druggists, will continue to call chamomile, chamomile, and red precipitate, red precipitate. We shall thus have a constant clashing of the two systems ; when the different members of the profession meet in consultation, they will speak two languages ; the moderns will be as unintelligible to the ancients, as if they were conversing in German ; and when a prescription, couched in the new terms, is sent to the apothecary's shop, either the young men will be obliged to decypher each word by a reference to their Pharmacopeia, or what is perhaps more probable, they will content themselves with forming a conjecture upon the subject, and will mix together those ingredients, which seem the most nearly to represent the uncouth terms employed by the scientific physician.

'Another evil, of no small magnitude, which will result from the adoption of the new nomenclature in pharmacy, is the confusion that it will occasion in medical publications. Probably most authors will think it necessary to be at the pains of translating their terms into the language authorized by the college, but by so doing, they will render their works nearly unintelligible to the bulk of their brethren ; and the same difficulty will occur to the younger practitioners, who having fully adopted the new system of names, will be

equally

equally at a loss to understand the writings of their predecessors. In either case it will be impossible to read medical books without the assistance of a pharmacopeia, in which the hard words must be searched out, as in a lexicon, a circumstance which cannot always be accomplished, and which, at best, would be a burthensome and tedious operation.' pp 7—11.

Such are the sentiments and reasoning of Dr. Bostock with regard to the consequences which are likely to succeed a change in the nomenclature of the Pharmacopœia; and we acknowlege that, in our opinion, his apprehensions are by no means groundless. We are not ignorant that the nomenclature, proposed by the college in their Pharmacopœia published in 1792, has not yet been adopted by many of the older practitioners; and, if we be not misinformed, the alterations in the last editions are not very generally received, even in that part of the kingdom over which the jurisdiction of the college extends: a numerous body of practitioners entertaining sentiments similar to those of Dr. B., and being convinced that the necessity for change was not urgent.

The circumstances now stated, plainly shew that the partial use of the new nomenclature must produce great confusion, even if the more serious evils apprehended by the author, from the diversity of language employed by the different persons concerned in the practice of medicine, could be certainly avoided. Here it may be said by the advocates for pharmaceutical reform, that all this is no fault of the college; and that the universal adoption of the new language would completely obviate the dangers and inconveniences which are thus dreaded. This would indeed be the most likely way of removing the difficulty: but we fear that it is cutting rather than untying the knot. Let it be recollected that the fiat of the college is not all-powerful, but is rather to be regarded as a simple recommendation than a positive law. Can it, then, be expected that a new language in medicine will more readily meet with unanimous approbation, or even with a very general reception from those who are engaged in the different departments of the art, (especially if the change be not imperiously required,) than a new phraseology would experience in being admitted into the intercourse and affairs of common life. It is obvious that, in both cases, changes of language must struggle with settled prejudices and confirmed habits; and, if not absolutely necessary, nor possessing some peculiar advantages of perspicuity and brevity of expression to facilitate the communication of knowlege by speech or writing, they can only be introduced slowly and gradually into general use. From the hints now suggested, it will appear that we are disposed

to think with Dr. B., that the learned body, whose labours he endeavours to appreciate, has been premature in presenting to the world the last two editions of the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia. The desire of change, indeed, rather than the certain hope of improvement, seems to have had the chief influence in most of the alterations proposed by the college.

The next point, to which Dr. B. directs his inquiries, is the extent of the changes in the nomenclature of the Pharmacopœia; for on this, he properly observes, much of the force of his reasoning depends. In the first edition of the Pharmacopœia under consideration, only 24 articles of the *Materia Medica*, out of 240, retained the name by which they were designated in the edition of 1792; and of the names of 285 articles classed with the preparations and compounds, only 62 have a place in the late edition. These are certainly sweeping changes. It is true that nine years had elapsed before they were projected; and it was not till the end of a period of eleven years that they were finally executed and presented to the public: but the spirit of innovation being roused, the revolutionary rage of the college continues to operate; and the work of reformation proceeds with such rapid strides, that in two years more, (from 1803 to 1805, when the last edition appeared,) not fewer than 200 alterations, including the changes in the titles of the preparations, with the additions and omissions, were made. From this statement, one of two things necessarily follows; either the college has failed in establishing fixed principles for regulating the changes proposed; or the fluctuating state of the sciences connected with medicine precludes the possibility of accomplishing the object of pharmaceutical reform, in a manner which promises to be in any degree useful. As Dr. Bostock elsewhere remarks, the task which the college has undertaken seems to exceed even the abilities of that learned body; so that in every view the attempt at reform has been premature.

Dr. B. urges another objection to the proposed changes, on the ground that substances, of which the physical properties are well known but the chemical composition is yet undiscovered, cannot be accurately denominated on any principles of nomenclature whatever. *Cuprum Ammoniacum* is adduced as an example. The preparation and properties of this substance are quite familiar: but the elements of its composition, and the state of combination in which they exist, have not been ascertained. The college has denominated this substance "*Ammoniaretum Cupri;*" on the presumption, we apprehend, that the new compound consists of ammonia and oxyd of copper: but we cannot avoid observing that nothing

can be more gratuitous than such a supposition; and we must add that nothing can shew more clearly the utter neglect of chemical principles than the reformed name of this substance: for whatever be the change produced by rubbing together in a mortar sulphate of copper and carbonate of ammonia, it cannot be once imagined that the sulphuric acid of the copper does not still act some important part. It is not, surely, annihilated. What, then, is the state of its new combination? Has it left the copper, and united with the ammonia? The effervescence, which appears during the operation, is a certain proof that the ammonia has entered into a new combination; whence the probability is that a part at least has formed a new compound with part of the acid; and therefore it is suspected that one portion of the new preparation is a triple salt, and ought to be considered as a sulphate, or perhaps a sub-sulphate of copper and ammonia, while another portion consists of ammonia united with oxyd of copper.

Dr. B. next inquires in what manner the college has executed their reform. Here he reminds the reader that the professed object of the alterations adopted was to introduce a more appropriate nomenclature, founded on the improved state of natural history and chemistry, in order that the nature and composition of the substances admitted into the *Materia Medica* might be more correctly named, and more readily known. The only deviation from this plan is in cases in which the name of the compound, if designated according to the improved chemical nomenclature, would be of inconvenient length; and also in the case of some of the simple substances which are in most frequent use, as opium, manna, and musk, which still retain their old names.

We shall not enter into any long detail in examining this part of the Essay before us; deeming it sufficient to mention only a few of the examples adduced by the author to shew the imperfect execution of the work which forms the subject of his criticism. In the new nomenclature, "*acidum acetosum*" is substituted for the old term *acetum*; but, as the experiments of the most able chemists have proved that the only difference between common and radical vinegar consists in the degree of purity and concentration, the new name, implying that there are two acids, acetous and acetic, conveys an erroneous idea of the nature of this acid. The specific name of *napellus* is affixed to the aconite, although it is not yet ascertained what species is employed in medicine. "*Amomum repens*," the new name for *Cardamomum minus*, is in the same predicament; since the plant, from which the lesser cardamom seeds are obtained, is not positively known to

botanists. It is here stated by Dr. B. that, in 49 instances of vegetable substances, the plant is best known by its specific name, so that the generic name being prefixed adds nothing to its more correct designation. In another view, also, the introduction of the generic name is considered by the author as injurious; for in 36 instances, the same generic term is applied to two or more substances; whence arises some danger of substances very different in their nature being confounded. "*Boras sodæ*" is used for Borax: but to this it is properly objected that it is only a sub-borate. The same objection is with equal propriety made to "*Carbonas potassæ*," and "*Carbonas sodæ*," both of which are sub-carbonates; and not less objectionable is the very indefinite term "*impurus*," which is added to the two latter:—a term, we must observe, which ought for ever to remain a stranger not only to natural history and chemistry, but to every other branch of science in which ambiguity is to be avoided and precision is required. Vague and indefinite as this epithet must appear to be, it has become a peculiar favourite with the reformers of the Edinburgh college; since we have "*Carbonas zinci impurus*," and "*oxidum zinci impurum*," instead of *Lapis Calaminaris* and *Tutty*. In the first of these substances, the designation *carbonas* is extremely incorrect; because, in almost every case, it contains a portion of oxygen, and is not seldom entirely destitute of carbonic acid. "*Sub-acetis cupri*" ought to be *sub-acetas cupri*, as being formed of acetic acid: but it appears, from the experiments of Proust, that verdegris consists of two salts, the acetate and the sub-acetate of copper: the name now adopted is therefore erroneous. "*Sulphas aluminæ*" is the new name for alum: but in this salt, besides the acid being in excess, we have always a portion of an alkali, so that the alum of commerce is a triple salt.

"*Mucilago mimosæ nilotiæ*," "*Decoctum anthemidis nobilis*," and "*Decoctum hordei distichi*," which are the new names for mucilage of gum arabic, infusion of chamomile flowers, and barley-water, would certainly indicate, to a person who was unacquainted with the subject, that the whole plant is employed in the preparation; whereas in the first the gum only is used, in the second the flowers, and in the third the seeds or grain. On this unfortunate effort at reform, Dr. B. remarks that, in the bulk of the profession, such denominations will be apt to excite only feelings of ridicule: but in us, we must confess, pity takes the place of ridicule, in contemplating so feeble and so unsuccessful an attempt at improvement in nomenclature.

An old practitioner would be unable to recognize *burnt alum* under the new and erroneous designation of "*Sulphas aluminæ exsiccatus*;"

exsiccatus ;" and a chemist would be at a loss to see how such a denomination could be applied to a triple salt. "*Oxidum antimonii cum sulphure, per nitratem potassæ,*" expresses, under a long and very imperfect descriptive title, a compound of the oxyd and the sulphuret of antimony, but without suggesting that it always contains a portion of potash. "*Murias hydrargyri,*" and "*Sub-murias hydrargyri,*" are the new names for well-known substances, the first being substituted for corrosive sublimate, and the second for calomel ; and Dr. Bostock objects to them not only because of the danger, from the very slight dissimilarity of the names, that substances so different in their nature and effects may be confounded, but also because they are not designated according to strict chemical principles : the only difference between corrosive sublimate and calomel being that, in the former, the mercury is in a higher state of oxidation than in the latter, so that the first ought to have been denominated *oxy-muriate*, and the second *muriate of mercury.* — "*Oxidum hydrargyri rubrum per acidum nitricum*" is another long designation, in some measure descriptive of the method of preparing a substance which is supposed to differ from red precipitate formed by means of heat, in still retaining a portion of nitric acid, the existence of which in the preparation is not indicated in the name. Is it not surprising that the abridged form of expression, *Oxidum hydrargyri nitricum*, did not in this case occur to the framers of the new nomenclature ?

We must, however, refrain from multiplying instances of unappropriate and incorrect designation ; and for others we must refer to the pamphlet. The examples now adduced furnish abundant evidence of the incorrect execution of the task of reform which was undertaken by the Edinburgh college ; and this, we think with Dr. B., constitutes the most powerful objection to the introduction of the new nomenclature.

The view which we have given of this tract, and the observations which the perusal of it suggested, will, we presume, be quite sufficient to satisfy our readers that the author has fully established his two general positions ; the first with regard to the necessity of reforming the nomenclature of the Pharmacopœia, which he has shewn was not very urgent ; and the second, with respect to the manner of its execution, which appears to be extremely imperfect. The pamphlet is concluded with a handsome apologetic compliment to the members of the Edinburgh College of Physicians ; in which it is alleged by Dr. B. that, since that learned body, with the co-operation of great abilities, has failed in improving the pharmaceutical nomenclature, the task of reform is to be

regarded as hopeless. In this opinion we do not entirely agree; and we deem it not impossible that in less able hands the result would have been more fortunate. The sublime genius of Buffon could not have submitted to the patient investigation of Linné; and the minute accuracy and nice discrimination of the Swedish philosopher, which appear in his wonderful efforts in improving the nomenclature and classification of the various departments of natural history, would have been lost in attempting the glowing descriptions of the animated world in which the French naturalist has so happily succeeded.

We suspect, moreover, that the co-operation of only a small number of the members of the college has been engaged in the business of reform; probably a committee composed of a few of the senior fellows, whose professional avocations preclude them from keeping pace with the progressive improvement of the different branches of natural history and chemistry, that are more immediately connected with medical science. Perhaps even the members of this committee may not have united in their labours; since otherwise we should have found fewer inaccuracies and glaring defects, as well as fewer inconsistencies with the principles laid down by themselves, than now appear in the new nomenclature of the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia. The remarkable failure in the execution of the chemical department strikes us most forcibly, and leads us to wonder that the college has not availed itself of the abilities of the professor of chemistry, and of those of the authors of the systems of chemistry quoted by Dr. B. in support of his opinions. These gentlemen, we believe, are on the spot; and no doubt the extent and accuracy of their knowlege would have contributed essentially to render the labours of the college more perfect.

This article is already too much protracted to permit us to offer some remarks on a plan of a more general reform of pharmaceutical nomenclature, which has occurred to us: but an opportunity of stating it will soon present itself, when we come to consider the changes in the nomenclature of the London Pharmacopœia, lately published, if in that case also the unavoidable extent of our criticism on the work itself should not preclude any farther detail.

Mill-r.

ART.

ART. XIII. *Letters from Portugal and Spain*, written during the March of the British Troops under Sir John Moore. With a Plan of the Battle of Corunna, and appropriate Engravings. By an Officer. 8vo. pp. 340. 9s. Boards. Longman and Co. 1809.

IT was to be expected, and much to be desired, that we should be supplied with details of the unfortunate Spanish campaign under the late Sir John Moore, from some of those who were engaged in the sad scene, and whose situations afforded them opportunities of recording the events which they beheld. We have accordingly been furnished with several publications of this nature, which respectively demand from us such a report to our readers, as our other duties and our space will permit us to assign to them, considering their number and the similarity of their contents: but we regarded it as incumbent on us to place first on the list the narrative which has been prepared from the papers of the lamented General himself, of which a full abstract was given in our Number for September last; and to which, as the standard, in all questions of high political and military import, every other account must be referred and be subservient. In miscellaneous information, however, and in delineations which respect countries and manners, the productions of private individuals have in course the advantage; and to these points, therefore, we shall chiefly attend in our view of them.

From the signature to the plates in this volume, viz. *R. K. Porter, delin.*, and from current report, we understand that it proceeds from the *pen* of a gentleman of that name, to whose *pencil* the public have been frequently indebted; who has also served on the staff of the British army; and who, during his travels in Russia, received the honour of Knighthood from the sovereign of that empire. His style of writing possesses the liveliness and the freedom which are appropriate to epistolary correspondence, but is not always sufficiently correct for the literary eye; and he speaks of the people with whom he is mixing, and of the transactions to which he was a party or a witness, with an unreservedness which is desirable for historical purposes, but which may perhaps subject him to the charge of harshness in some cases, and in others to that of a deficiency in the secresy of a *preux chevalier*. His representations of both the Portuguese and the Spanish are indeed generally unfavourable; and it is to be regretted that all former travellers, and the events of the present day, but too strongly corroborate his opinion.

Of Lisbon, the usual picture presents itself; and we are introduced to nasty streets and dirty houses, idle monks and amorous

amorous devotees, meretricious dances and obscene songs. We lament also to hear that 'since the departure of the French, those in power are again making the horrors of the inquisition the instruments of their vengeance.'

During the writer's march through Portugal into Spain, a very discreditable national trait presents itself:

'We were frequently shewn the caps and arms of the unfortunate Frenchmen who had fallen sacrifices to the knives of this oppressed people. They told us exultingly, while they held them up, the particulars of many a bloody scene; and how often it had been repeated by the discovery and murder of some other poor stragglers. I fear that this base sort of revenge is the only one the generality of this nation are now capable of devising. I no where hear amongst them any sentiments on their release from a foreign yoke, which speak principles of a nobler kind than a merely natural joy at being relieved from insult and exaction. No grand views connected with freedom and national advantages seem to enter their heads; all they think of is the temporary escape from personal inconvenience; and I have a notion that had Napoleon's Generals acted with less rigor, and condescended in any degree to have won the people's confidence, we should have heard that all was very quietly settled in Lusitania. But when the titles of the native nobility are assumed, and their estates sequestrated; when the lower classes are oppressed and plundered, no wonder then that every body being injured, all should seek redress, and, fearful of their own strength, fly to the broad shield of England.'

On entering Spain at Alcantara, Sir Robert Porter says that he contemplated the proud walls of that city as 'a type of the brave nation we came to defend; noble in ruins, and settled on the impregnable rock of nature, determined to maintain their existence against those attacks which shook other places to their foundation.'

'With such sentiments, such respect and cordiality for the inhabitants, did we enter Alcantara. But the governor proved a beast—a vulgar, uncivil animal, with little power to serve us, and less inclination. He was asleep when we called on him. Indeed all seemed asleep to the feelings we brought along with us. They received us with the coldness of men, shewing they were resolved ever to consider us as strangers, and treated us with an inhospitality they durst not have ventured had they not believed us to be friends.'

Heu! sic omnia!—with only such exceptions as confirm the rule.

At Salamanca, we find the author's military views become very gloomy, and his ideas but too much in accordance with those which we know to have been entertained by the commander in chief, and with the actual result. He anticipates the

the necessity of that *retreat* which he yet deprecates and dreads, and he adds :

'From the brave honesty of Sir John Moore, I have no doubt of his informing ministers at home of the true state of Spain; and of how shamefully the junta has misled them, by its representations of the patriotic zeal and military preparation of the nation. That the Spaniards did not continue as the junta found them was its own fault. Oppressed and outraged by the French, with a wild revenge hordes of enraged people rose in every quarter of the kingdom: their sudden and impetuous vengeance carried all before them; the veteran armies of France were destroyed, the usurper driven from his assumed capital, and the cry of restitution resounded every where. This was the sympathetic act of a whole nation; and this was the fortunate moment for a virtuous nobility to have turned it to their country's advantage Had some great spirit seized this conquering body, and guided it with the singleness of aim which actuated the soul of Pelagio, when at the head of his zealous Asturians he drove the invading Saracens over his native mountains, we should not now be shut up in Salamanca, nor would the flying Spaniards be seeking a temporary refuge in their dishonoured homes.'

In a letter from Sahagun, when the army was advancing to the enemy, Sir R. Porter well observes :

'Bad as appearances may be, I have such a reliance on the prudence as well as courage of Sir John Moore, that I am certain he would not risk the tarnishing his fame, and the honour of his troops, by bringing them into a situation where either were likely to be injured. I am persuaded that the steps we are preparing to take were not determined on by him without his having conceived an idea of their necessity; that it would do still more than rescue the name of his army from the obliquy which the "great vulgar" as well as the "small," from ignorance of the peculiar situations of the objects they arraign, are ever ready to throw upon what does not exactly meet their expectations. Not that I believe he would needlessly sacrifice a hair of any man's head who is under his command, to gain the proudest admiration which depends on the prejudging judgments of those whose voice may give popularity, but never can bestow fame. He, with every other veteran, must be aware that it is sometimes the duty of a General to risk the odium of being called too severely cautious; nay, of being stigmatized with the appellation of lukewarmness, and a hundred epithets of the same complexion, rather than purchase acclamations at the expence of humanity; and, by a brilliant rashness, hurry his brave followers into an extremity where death is inevitable. The mob may deify such a valiant fool; but true heroism is to have the courage to refuse as well as to give battle.'

We now present a trait of a different kind, in compliment to the good sense of our countryman whom it brings forwards :

'Being

'Being now in the venerable cloisters of St. Dominique, (Salamanca) I cannot leave them without recounting an adventure which, under their hallowed roof, befel our mutual friend Captain ——— . Hearing that a grand *Te Deum* was to be performed there, to invoke a blessing on the united arms of Spain and England, curiosity led him to be one of the audience. He found the holy place filled with the laity of Salamanca, besides the white brotherhood and flocks of *religieuses* of every rank from the neighbouring monasteries. The consecrated part of the congregation were arranged on either side of the main body of the church, clothed in all their sacerdotal attributes, and holding the sacred implements of their function. A very large standard, fringed and tasselled, and on which was painted or worked the figure of the saint, was held in the hands of a priest of the highest order. This hallowed production is never brought forth but upon the most extraordinary occasions.

'Our friend, unconscious of being himself an object of any attention, was standing very composedly listening to the loud swell of the organ, and the still louder voices of the tonsured choir, when a monk approached him respectfully, and saying something relative to *a standard*, took his hat from him, and at the same time taking his hand. Captain ———, who did not clearly understand what was said, supposed he was going to conduct him to a spot more convenient for seeing the religious ceremonies; judge, then, his surprize on finding himself not only led up to the consecrated banner of St. Dominique, but at having it placed in his grasp! At that moment the monks left him to be the supporter of their holy ensign; and a cloud of incense issuing from the surrounding censers, covered the flag and its holder. Imagine the feelings of our friend! to be thus made a partaker in papistical rite; and placed in a situation so conspicuous, and so hazardous of offending those we came to befriend, should he attempt to resist this enforced honour: however, the sudden roar of the organ, and the pealing voices of the fraternity, with the rapid advance of the marshalled corps *des religieuses*, interrupted his amazed cogitations, and hurried him forward like a stream, still bearing in proud array the sainted standard. Though reluctant to make one in such an exhibition, yet as he had been seized upon, and presented with the flag as a testimony of the Spanish church's amity with that of England; he would not, in common charity and prudence, but behave with all requisite decorum and respect.

'I believe it was the first time that so revered an appendage of the Roman Catholic faith was entrusted to the hand of a heretic. With a grave countenance he obeyed his fate; and the procession moved on, amidst a renewed burst of sacred minstrelsy. They passed through the great entrance—made rather a long circuit of the city; entering several cloisters and consecrated places; and halting at certain spots, where the holy singing again burst forth; and our friend was occasionally enveloped from the eyes of the attendant multitude by the vast volumes of smoking frankincense which rolled around him.

'After his patience and his arms were heartily fatigued by his ponderous load, the party retraced their steps, and re-entered the church

church of St. Dominique: on gaining the original place whence the standard had started, a long prayer was said, another cloud of fragrance filled the air, and Captain ——— resigned his sacred trust into the hands of the superior priests. His hat was given to him, and he gladly retired down the line of monks, being bowed and sung out of the church till he reached the open air. When fairly escaped from sight, he literally took to his heels, congratulating himself that an exhibition so inimical to the simplicity of his own faith had terminated without any restiveness on his side, and consequent affront on the part of our devout allies. He told me that he had the honour to precede the holy Virgin in this march, and that she brought up his rear, clad in all the costly apparel of the loom and the jeweller's shop.

'When I asked him how he could bring his conscience to be a partaker in this mummery, his reply was,—"I certainly would not have volunteered it: but in carrying a flag through a few streets, I neither worshipped stocks nor stones, nor subscribed to any repugnant doctrine. For peace-sake I accepted a civility paid to my country; and by my compliance, I hope I have shewn the people that we are as willing to be tolerant of their prejudices, as they have declared themselves to be of our faith."

Of the chastity of the ladies, we have already intimated that the author does not speak favourably; and in Iberia as well as in Lusitania, the *tender passion* is still depicted as "bearing sway," even among "the holy ones:"

'On the Portuguese frontiers, the fair inhabitants of a few nunneries did not even keep a threshold between our curiosity and their seclusion. We found as free ingress into their cells as if we had been a regiment of confessors; their veils were thrown aside, their holy abstinence neglected, and adventures truly romantic ensued. I fancy more than the history of Rousseau's nun was here realised in a hundred instances; and could these lovely forsworns have seen any prospect of safety by flight, I believe many of our officers would have had a daughter of the church added to his baggage.'

Other instances are given: but this may here suffice.

In reporting the first action between the British and the French cavalry, the author makes a representation which we most seriously recommend to our military rulers, and especially to the Colonels of our Merry-Andrew regiments of Dragoons:

'Most of our brave fellows who felt the edge of the French sword were cut in the head; and that owing to the little defence which the present form of their caps allows. This circumstance shews the necessity of changing the prevailing fashion of fantastic head-dresses in the field, for the less ornamental but more useful helmets of our enemies. Whatever be the fate of this expedition, we should at least make it serviceable to us, by learning all that is to be taught by the great masters of arms, who for these twenty years have been educated

in

in a university of blood and victory *The deuce is in it*, then, if we cannot take a lesson from them in the art of shielding the most vital parts of our persons.

'Their helmets are light, excellently adapted to guard the head, and at the same time very elegant. They have brass chains which come under the chin, protecting the ears and the sides of the face from a horizontal *coup-de-sabre*. The men who wore furred caps at all resembling our own, had them lined within with a hoop of iron; and from the ears devolved two strong bars. Even with this heavy appurtenance their weight did not exceed that of the flimsy, but muff-like appendages that encumber the heads of so many of our soldiers. Indeed, this awkward cap of ours, by being constructed partly of pasteboard, soaks up a great quantity of wet during the violent rains of this country, and so becomes unbearably heavy and disagreeable, while it affords no protection to the wearer. At all times they can be cut down to his skull with the greatest ease. Excepting this defect, every other military appointment of our people, both for themselves and their horses, is superior to that of the French. An excellence which cannot but be perceived by them; while the late rencounters must force them to acknowledge our advantage in still more essential respects.'

Truly affecting details are given of the inconceivable misery which attended the final retreat of the army to Corunna, and of the battle at that port: but we have not room at this moment for additional extracts; and we shall find sufficient particulars of these scenes in other volumes, to which we must hereafter attend. We farther copy only one sufficiently remarkable passage:

'One of the French officers, our prisoner, said to me during our retreat: "Your country and your general little know how nearly your army was becoming ours by purchase."

'I answered, "No Englishman would thus sell his honour."

"No, your Spanish friends."

'It instantly struck me that Morla, who sold his conscience and the capital, and with that his country, was to have drawn us also into the snare! How ought we to thank the memory of our commander that we were not thus made a prey!'

In the beginning of this article, we hinted generally at the occasional inelegance and incorrectness of Sir R. Porter's language, and we shall now specify a few instances. P. 3. '*I hope in heaven* this may be the case.'—P. 46. 'No day escapes *but what you* witness,' &c.—P. 103. 'They never are fatigued with any *employment* more active than *idleness*.' (What countryman is Sir Robert?) P. 110. 'They both *eat* and *drank*.'—P. 122. *et al.* he speaks of an institution called an *Enfans trouvée*; p. 112. *et al.* we have *mervielle* for *merveille*; and 125. &c. *chanion* for *chanoin*. False concords of noun and verb are also frequent.—Six views in *acquatinta*, and a plan of the battle of Corunna, illustrate the volume.

MONTHLY CATALOGUE,
For NOVEMBER, 1809.

POETRY, *and the* DRAMA.

Art. 14. *Medea to Jason*; translated from Ovid. Crown 8vo. 2s. sewed. Baldwins. 1809.

We confess the unfeigned pleasure with which we open a classical imitation, or translation, after having toiled through the vain attempts at originality which are the daily disgrace of our contemporary rhymers. Why will they imagine that they can find better models, than those which the writers of our Augustan age at the beginning of the last century selected from the poets of Greece and Rome; models of which the imitation has been sanctioned by the practice of the best writers in every country of modern Europe, when that country has attained any high degree of civilization? To adopt, on the contrary, as our examples, barbarous compositions, strung together in the infancy of states, and partaking strongly of the rude spirit of the times in which they were composed, exhibiting in short the "darkness visible" of the middle ages, or, at best, only the faint dawn of the revival of literature, is surely an indication of declining taste.—We shall not, however, here urge arguments which we have stated more at length and shall again state elsewhere; and which we trust by a persevering repetition will at length produce their due effect,—the conviction of the most bewildered disciples of the silly school of modern metrical romance,

The present translation from Ovid is on the whole executed with vigour and fidelity. The translator justly observes that this epistle, in the original, possesses more animation and spirit than are to be found in the generality of its author's compositions. Grace, playfulness, and ease, are the characteristics of Ovid's usual style: but here he rises with his favourite subject into the higher strains of poetry:

'Where art thou, Providence? where lingering sleeps
Thy vengeance? O reward us in the deeps!
Thee, traitor, for thy lies, and sworn deceit;
And me for crediting the worthless cheat!
O that the loose Symplegades had crush'd
Our mingled bones, betwixt them as we rush'd!
Or would that Scylla, to ungrateful men
In angry hate, had snatch'd us to her den;
And glutted with the prey her howling train!
Or midst the gulph, that now the shrinking main
Absorbs, now vomits the refunded store,
O had we perish'd in the whirling roar!'

Again—

'Laugh on, insulting paramour, and lie
On beds rich-glowing with Sidonian dye!
Yet shall she weep, and feel consuming flame,
Fierce as now penetrates my fever'd frame.

For,

For, long as fire can burn, or steel can wound,
Or herbs of venom curse the teeming ground;
No proud antagonist, exempt of harms,
Mocks the weak vengeance of Medean charms.'

The phrase, 'exempt of harms,' and some others that might be mentioned, lessen the general effect of this translation; which is creditable to its author, whoever he may be.—We cannot dismiss Medea without a cursory remark on the transcendent superiority of Euripides over all his competitors in the management of this subject; nor without an expression of regret that the genius of Corneille should have been guided by so little taste as to imitate the ranting Medea of Seneca, instead of the dignified and impassionate heroine of Euripides. Hodg.

Art. 15. *Fowling*, a Poem, in Five Books; descriptive of Grouse, Partridge, Woodcock, Duck, and Snipe Shooting. Crown 8vo. 6s. Boards. Cadell and Davies.

This will be a pleasing poem to the literary sportsman, if such there be: but the phrase sounds as oddly as any of the combinations of incongruous substantive and adjective which have been made by modern ingenuity. The honest housebreaker, the virtuous adulteress, and the literary sportsman, seem to be homogeneous expressions; and yet the author of this little book is certainly a good English scholar, as well as a keen pursuer of game. We have perused his poem with satisfaction; and we think that any reader, who has a due relish for agreeable descriptions of country-scenery, and for a gentlemanly style of poetry (if we may use the term), will find amusement from the volume. "Would it were rhyme," we exclaimed, when presented with a troop of blank verses; as Falstaff exclaimed, "Would it were horse," when presented with a company of foot. However, it runs as well as a poem can run upon one leg; and we shall dismiss the sportsman with wishing him no other *blank days* in the season than those which he himself chuses to enjoy. At parting, we are sure that his candour will excuse the criticism which admonishes him—"*aurem vellit et admonuit*"—not to admit into his poetical pages, if ever he writes poetry again, such clippings of pure prose as the following; which, it is but just to add, find no counterparts in the volume:

'Oft undecided is the choice of dogs,
To push the pheasant from his close retreat,
The questing spaniel some prefer, and some
The steady pointer; *whilst the use of both*
Is tried by others.' Do.

Art. 16. *The Fall of Portugal*, or the Royal Exiles, a Tragedy in Five Acts. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Longman and Co.

Sixpence an act, and rather dear than otherwise. Two of the characters are the Prince of Brazil, and General Junot; the latter of whom inquires—

'Who guides our march?"

and

and says not another word in the play, admirably intimating that a military character, like that of Ajax in Homer, should deal in blows rather than in words.—The subject of the Emigration to the Brazils is too recent for scenic exhibition, unless it be the exhibition of a puppet-show; and we really think that much of the present tragedy is better adapted to the squeak of Mr. Punch than to the drawl of Mr. Kemble. Hodg.

Art. 17. *Panthea*, Queen of Susia, a Tragedy in Five Acts. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Barker. 1809.

We augured ill from the very title of this tragedy. Susiana, or Susis, was the name of the country of which Susa was the capital. The author has chosen his subject from the East, but is evidently one of the antipodes to the Wise Men. For instance—

'I sigh for peace, but sigh alas in vain!
I do the things that alienate it's love.'
Exit Araspes.

This couplet is taken at random from the play; every page of which abounds with similar drivel.—Much of it has no other resemblance to blank verse than that which the inequality of margin confers on prose. Do

Art. 18. *Selection of Poems.* By Charles Snart. 8vo. 2 Vols. 16s. Boards. Longman and Co.

If this selection were reduced to one volume, it would form a good miscellany of pleasing trifles. In its present state, the compiler cannot be accused of having admitted a single poem of which the style is licentious or the moral reprehensible: but he has been too ready to insert verses, odes, and sonnets cut out of old newspapers, in praise of 'angel-charms,' and 'beamy eyes,' and in which Strephon reproaches Cupid with having '*lit* a fire in his heart.' Mr. Snart has also transcribed several pieces from Mrs. Opie's collection of Poems, and many of Charlotte Smith's Sonnets; which, though we cannot read them without pleasure, we deem it hardly fair to borrow from the volumes of their fair writers.

Mr. S. is indeed "a retailer of scraps, and deals in remnants of remnants, like a maker of pin-cushions:" he makes extracts from extracts, and he selects from selections; a great number of the poems in his two volumes being taken from Dodsley's Collection, Percy's reliques of Antient Poetry, Elegant Extracts, the Vocal Magazine, &c. &c. We have, however, to thank him for an ample selection of Peter Pindar's serious poems; and for preserving some very elegant fugitive pieces by Sheridan, several of considerable merit by Dr. Aikin, some lines by Roscoe on an exhausted rivulet, and the charming verses addressed by Charles Fox to Lady Crewe. He has also inserted the "Stanzas to Careless Content" by Dr. Byrom, which are very quaint, but very clever and characteristic; some pretty verses on Love, and some on Kisses, by Mrs. Robinson; with various others, by different authors, which are not devoid of merit, and will not be destitute of admirers. Mr. Bar.

Art. 19. *Poems, by William Hersee.* 12mo. 2s. 6d. sewed. Darton and Harvey.

The preface to these poems assures us that the author 'has been debarred from every advantage of education, and instructed only by the village-matron;' and in the first he describes naturally the village-school, with his own cottage and garden, and wishes to write like Bloomfield, that he may immortalize them all. At the age of sixteen, he produced an '*Epitaph on a very old Cat*,' somewhat in the manner of Wordsworth; and at seventeen he composed an address of '*The young Lover to his Heart*;' in which he first tells his heart to '*lie still*' and not '*disturb his guiltless breast*,' next bids it '*fly and melt Mary's throbbing breast*,' and finally, '*if she scorns*,' he desires it to '*burst for her who loves another Swain*.' The lines '*To Sunset*' are, however, much better; and those '*On the Birth of a first Child*,' though puerile, are natural and feeling, probably because they were written from the real impulse of parental affection. This author has the merit of attempting no subjects with which he is not familiar; he seems to be an attentive and admiring observer of rural scenes; and almost all his poems are written in their praise.

Do

Art. 20. *Kenneth and Fenella*; a Legendary Tale, by the Rev. F.S. Whalley, D.D. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Hatchard. 1809.

Dr. Whalley, not being, like *Gresset*,

"*Persuadé que l'harmonie*
Ne verse ses heureux présens
Que sur le matin de la vie;
Et que sans un peu de folie
On ne rime plus à trente ans,"

has here presented us with a Legendary Tale, which he states to be 'the best effort of one whose imagination is clouded, and whose ardour is cooled by old age and infirmities;' and we feel it to be a painful as well as an unpromising task to point out the faults of a work so characterized. They are not, indeed, such as to need any very severe animadversion: one of the most palpable is the frequency with which the sentences are extended from one stanza to the next; and another defect is the total want of ornament throughout the tale, which is delivered in so unvarnished a state, that no episodical descriptions nor digressive reflections are suffered to interrupt its course. The admirers and imitators of Mr. Walter Scott, among whom we rank Dr. Whalley, should recollect that it is not merely by the plot and circumstance of his tales that their interest is created, but that the fascination of the images, and the pathos and beauty of the sentiments, constitute the attractions of the "Lay of the Last Minstrel" and of "Marmion." Dr. Whalley indeed thinks that the story of the murder of Kenneth II. of Scotland, by Fenella, is so fine a subject for a tragedy or a poem, that he wonders it has not been before adopted, and expects that his own sketch will 'awaken superior talents to draw from it a finished picture.' With respect to the sublimity of the tale, however, we differ from him; it is neither new nor impressive. Fenella is a haughty dame whose son had been executed for murder

murder by Kenneth; some time afterward, the king pays a visit to her castle; and *the tradition* says that, while he partook of her feast "she slew him by means of arrows, thrown out by an image the artful mechanism of which was of her own contrivance." Dr. Whalley tells us that he takes a Poet's licence, and makes her conceal a party of 'grim assassins' behind the tapestry, who rush forwards at a signal, and murder the king; and his son Malcolm, coming to avenge him, finds the way blocked

'With benches, corses, cates, and blood.'

These impediments prevent him from catching Fenella, who is at last discovered in a cave, by a blood-hound, and burnt alive by Malcolm's command.—The poem concludes with a few stanzas of exultation on the superior liberty and cultivation which are at present enjoyed in Scotland, and with compliments to some of the noblemen and gentlemen who have contributed to her agricultural improvements. Do

Art. 21. *Poems,* by Felicia Dorothea Browne. 4to. pp. 111. 15s. Boards. Cadell and Davies.

We hear that these poems are 'the genuine productions of a young lady, written between the ages of 8 and 13 years,' and we do not feel inclined to question the intelligence: but, although this fact may ensure them an indulgent reception from all those who have "children dear," yet, when a little girl publishes a large quarto, we are disposed to examine before we admit her claims to *public* attention. Many of Miss Browne's compositions are extremely jejune, particularly the hymns and the French verses; and we doubt whether the heathen mythology justifies her in addressing a Sonnet to 'the Muse of pity and of love,' or in invoking the *Moon* by the name of *Cyllene*. She may have heard that the Moon was sometimes called *Selene*: but Cyllene, as she spells it, means nothing but a Mountain in Arcadia, on which a temple was built to *Mercury*, who was thence called *Cyllenius*. However, though Miss Browne's poems contain some erroneous and some pitiable lines, we must praise the 'Reflections on a ruined Castle,' and the poetic strain in which they are delivered. The lines to 'Patriotism' contain good thoughts and forcible images; and if the youthful author were to content herself for some years with reading instead of writing, we should open any future work from her pen with an expectation of pleasure, founded on our recollection of this publication: though we must, at the same time, observe that premature talents are not always to be considered as signs of future excellence. The Honey-suckle attains maturity before the Oak. Do

Art. 22. *Poetic Amusements*; consisting of a Sample of Sonnets, Epistolary Poems, Moral Tales, and Miscellaneous Pieces. By Thomas Beck. 12mo. 4s. 6d. Boards. Maxwell and Wilson.

Mr. Beck is a pleasing and instructive moralist; and though he never attempts any flights of sublimity, he gives importance and interest to familiar subjects by the propriety of his reflections, the appositeness of his examples, and the truth and force of his descriptions. His style is peculiar, and rather nervous than harmonious;

each of his poems would perhaps furnish subjects for an Essay, but not one of them could ever be converted into an Opera-Song. We prefer his 'Miscellaneous Poems' to the longer 'Moral Tales,' and the allegory of 'Fortune and her six Boxes' is moral and ingenious. The two poems on 'Smiles' and 'Frowns' have also smartness and originality; 'the Point of Identity.' and the lines suggested by a foggy walk, are written with considerable humour; and the 'Samples of Sonnets' have the pleasantry without the personality of Peter Pindar's burlesque compositions. 'The Monthly Memorial' is the only poem that is unworthy of the collection in which it is placed: the ideas are as trite as the subject; and twenty minor poets have written stanzas on the months of the year, which equalled these in merit.

Do

Art. 23. *British Loyalty; or Long live the King!* A dramatic Effusion, in two Acts, with Songs, Dances, &c. By Joseph Moser, Esq. D. L., one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for Middlesex, Essex, Surrey, Kent, &c. &c. 8vo. 1s. Asperne.

Mr. Moser has probably amused himself, and will probably amuse others, whose taste is not fastidious, by this loyal drama in honour of the Jubilee. Sailors, soldiers, and country-people are brought together on this joyful occasion, and their sentiments and songs are all expressive of attachment to the Sovereign. At the country-seat of Lord Liberal, a sort of Mask is performed; the object of which will be seen from the following stage-directions and song:

'*When the company is seated, a curtain flies up and displays a transparency, in which is exhibited the figure of Fame standing upon a pedestal, on which is depicted the arms of England. On the one side she holds in her hand a trumpet, on the banner of which is the number* FIFTY. *In the other hand, she holds one end of an extended scroll, which is unfolded by* TIME, *who stands on the ground with his scythe and hour-glass beside him. On the scroll is written, in large characters,*

LONG LIVE THE KING!!!

The distance displays a view of the front of Windsor Castle. In the clouds appear, on the one side, the emblems of the order of the garter; and, on the other, the Saxon standard, faintly touched: the distant wings are formed by groups of trees in the park.

'Dryad advances.

'The sounds of joy reverb'rate thro' the plains,
Where smiling plenty shows a BRUNSWICK reigns;
From distant hamlets brilliant trains arise,
Whose star'd explosions blaze in sable skies;
Proclaiming general joy. These from the dell,
Where silence rests, and murky spirits dwell,
Have call'd me forth, once more to greet my eyes,
And hail the royal standard as it flies:
Long may it wave o'er *Windsor's* towers august
In honour of a Monarch term'd THE JUST;
Who wishes, tho' the bolts of fate are hurl'd,
To bind in love, and peace, a suffering world!'

A long

A long speech from the Genius of Britain, complimentary to Majesty, concludes the piece.

Mo-y.

COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE.

Art. 24. *Justice and Generosity against Malice, Ignorance, and Poverty:* or an Attempt to shew the Equity of the New Prices at the Theatre Royal, Covent-Garden. By Attalus. 8vo. 1s. Sherwood and Co.

Art. 25. *Considerations on the past and present State of the Stage;* with reference to the late Contests at Covent-Garden; to which is added a Plan for a New Theatre, for the Purpose of hearing Plays. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Chapple.

"The Drama's laws the Drama's patrons give,
And they who live to please must please to live."

This has been the acknowleged doctrine of the Play-house, and on this principle John Bull has always been very despotic in the Pit and Galleries of our theatres: but his despotism, on the opening of the New House in Covent-Garden, has been so very violent and *uproarious*, that his conduct will afford matter of deliberation in our courts of law. The new prices, and the annual or private boxes, are the subjects of John's complaints; the former he considers as unjustifiable, and the latter as not proper, for moral reasons, to be tolerated in a British place of public entertainment. Various opinions are given for and against the Proprietors. Attalus sets out with an eulogy on the New Theatre, which is too expressive of his partiality. He calls it 'a structure which stands the *greatest* ornament of the British capital:' but, though it does credit to the architect, we should be sorry if it could be said that the noblest specimen of architecture in our grand metropolis was a play-house. Attalus treats the opponents the new prices with contempt, as being composed of the lowest classes; and he contends that the shilling and the sixpence, advanced in the price of admission to the Boxes and the Pit, were justified by the expences of the Proprietors in the new erection, as well as by the decreased value of money: asserting also that, if Drury-Lane theatre had been standing, the demand would still have been made. He does not enter into the question of the private boxes, against which so many *placards* are directed; nor into any details respecting the nightly expences, and the receipts of a full house.

The author of the *Considerations*, after having given a well-compressed history of the Stage, and a view of the present state of the law respecting country-theatres, adverts to the case of the theatres of the metropolis, which are not under the same regulations, and introduces the case of the New Theatre:

'The contests between the proprietors of the new theatre in Covent-Garden, and the audiences which have hitherto frequented that house, have displayed no small degree of violence and pertinacity. I proceed to enquire, whether there be any justifiable ground of complaint on either side; and if there be, in what manner it may be most prudently removed by the hand of authority. Such an investigation

may perhaps tend to elucidate the general principles on which the drama ought to be regulated in the present state of the metropolis.

'After the remarkable concurrence of calamities which destroyed the two chief theatres by fire, it became obvious, that expedition in rebuilding either of them would be doubly compensated by profit. The experienced proprietors of Covent-Garden possessed a great advantage over those of Drury-Lane in the clearness and disembarrassment of their accounts. They therefore seized the favourable opportunity; opened a scheme which readily met with subscribers, and proceeded instantly to put it into execution. In consequence, a most ingenious young architect, whose reputation depended on the attempt, was judiciously selected; and the new edifice arose with unexampled rapidity, and in an admirable style of exterior beauty and grandeur. So far the conduct of the proprietors, though perfectly consonant to their private interest, seemed to demand general approbation. But when the night of opening the theatre arrived, many circumstances, of a totally different complexion, presented themselves. The prices of admission to the pit and boxes were raised; the interior of the house was even larger, and less adapted to hearing plays than that of the preceding structure; the public, in general, was excluded from a whole tier of boxes, whose privacy was secured by new and singular means; and lastly, a band of foreigners was engaged, at most exorbitant salaries, to sing in a language unknown to ninety-nine hundredths of the audience.

'It is not very surprising, that some or all these causes should excite on the first night a clamour of disapprobation. That clamour has since risen to outrage. The proprietors, after attempting explanation by various methods in vain, have opposed force to force; and thus we have seen an unprecedented spectacle of hostility between those who live by the stage, and those who contribute to its support. It must be a very strong case indeed which can justify the proprietors, in point of policy as well as of justice, in thus making head against their natural patrons: accordingly they rely in the first instance on a very high authority, that of a patent from the Crown. It unfortunately happens, however, that the public are pretty much in the dark with respect to the history, nature, and contents, of that important document.'—

'The patent is clearly a monopoly, and monopolies are established not for the benefit of the holders, but for that of the public. If therefore the patent in question be not regulated by such principles as I have here supposed, it ought to be instantly quashed; and there is no doubt but that His Majesty's advisers would much rather recommend such a measure, than suffer his royal authority to be used as a cloak for imposition.'

By this statement, it will be seen that the author does not enlist on the side of the proprietors, and that Attalus is not justified in restricting the opposition to the mob. In the first place, the accuracy of the public statement is called in question, and then the authority of the proprietors, under the patent, to demand the new prices. It is added:

'Let

'Let these prices be proved to be ever so fair, equitable, and legal, yet the time and manner of advancing them must be considered as singularly injudicious. It had every appearance of imposition, to raise the price of an article, at the very moment, when the only possible competitor was taken out of the market.'

The size of the New Theatre is disapproved, as being too large for the audience to *hear* plays. The *private boxes* are said 'to be made in open defiance of public decency;' and it is also objected that 'the house has not the air of a British theatre; which, in its very appearance, ought to breathe the freedom and manliness of our national character.' The complaint against the introduction of Italian singers we need not examine, as this point is abandoned.

Though the author does not wholly vindicate the incessant *row* that has been kept up at the Theatre, he rather pleads for the populace:

'One or two remarks are due in justice to them; as first, that they had, at least in the outset, some right on their side; secondly, that they committed no very extraordinary, or destructive acts of violence; and lastly, that they were irritated by a kind of conduct, on the part of the proprietors, as unprecedented, as it was indecorous.'

Severe reprehension, it is here thought, attaches to the Proprietors; the suspension of the patent is recommended; and new regulations, with a new plan, are suggested. We interfere not in this contest: but however the question at issue may be decided, it is evident from this last pamphlet, that it is not merely an affair of the *mob*.

Mo-y.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

Art. 26. *A few Remarks explanatory of the Motives which guided the Operations of the British Army, during the late short Campaign in Spain.* By Brigadier-General Henry Clinton, Adjutant-General to the Army late under the Command of Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore, K.B. 8vo. 1s. Egerton.

With the glow of friendship, and with 'high respect for the memory of that great Soldier' Sir John Moore, Brigadier-General Clinton here endeavours to dispel the shade of imputation which has been cast on Sir John, with reference to his forward move from Salamanca, and to the route and mode of his final retreat. It has been sufficiently shewn in Mr. Moore's narrative of his brother's Campaign, (see our Review for September,) that the representations made to Sir John at Salamanca, with regard to the position of the enemy's several corps, and to the spirit of the Spaniards, at the time of his advance to Sahagun, fully justified that measure; which Gen. Clinton defends on the same grounds. As to the direction of the retreat, by Corunna instead of Vigo, it is remarked: 'such was the state of the army, that it was an object of the very first importance, to shorten its march as much as possible; the distance from Lugo to Vigo is just double that from Lugo to Corunna; and, secondly, had Sir John Moore marched by the direct road to Vigo, *i. e.* by Mellid, he must have resolved to abandon the whole of his artillery, as that road was not

practicable for guns or carriages of any sort.—He always looked to the probability of having to fight a battle before he could re-embark; and in that view, he probably would not, even under more pressing circumstances, have been reconciled to abandon his artillery; he therefore gave the preference to Corunna with all its disadvantages, and sent an express for the removal of the transports.' With respect to the *expedition* used on this occasion, the Brigadier urges similar reasons to those which have been developed in the above mentioned *Narrative*; and when it is recollected that the vastly superior force of the enemy reached Astorga only the day after Sir John Moore's last division quitted it,—and that French officers have acknowleged Bonaparte's astonishment and vexation to have been equally great, on finding that an army had thus escaped him, on the destruction of which he had reckoned as a certainty,—we do not see how it can be denied that the desperate nature of the case required the desperate efforts which were made, with all their sad consequences. G. 2.

Art. 27. *Observations on the Movements of the British Army in Spain; in Reply to Brigadier-General H. Clinton's Statement.* By a British Officer. 8vo. 2s. Murray.

Not only the conduct of Sir John Moore, but even the correctness of B. G. Clinton's statements, are arraigned by this anonymous opponent; who declares that, in the Brigadier's pamphlet, 'some facts were misrepresented, many circumstances suppressed, and the whole so strangely distorted, that the most ordinary occurrence is sometimes unintelligible, even to the best informed reader;' who talks of 'illiberal and unfounded accusations' against the Spaniards, and of their having been treated with *calumny and abuse*, with *arrogance and contempt*, with *insult and injustice*; and who represents that 'we depended, for our safety, on the rapidity of our flight; not on the vigour of our arms. We fled with precipitation, through the strong and very defensible passes of Gallicia, and sacrificed, without remorse, our men and our reputation.'

After these strong prefatory remarks, the writer proceeds to controvert the points urged in the Brigadier's pamphlet: but these *Observations* also appeared before the publication of Mr. Moore's *Narrative*; which, we think, affords an ample reply to them, and must give this 'officer' himself a different view of the subject, unless he be so much more anxious for the character of the Spaniards than for that of his countrymen, that he will admit no charges against the former, and no justifications of the latter.

The writer chiefly and positively insists on the practicability of the British army having maintained itself in the mountainous country of Gallicia, and disputed every inch of ground, in spite of the immense numerical superiority of the French, and of the alleged want of provisions. As to the former difficulty, he adverts to it as little as if he seriously adopted the vulgar saying that "one Englishman can always beat three Frenchmen:" but we would ask what would have been the consequences of the battle of Talavera, (making it as splendid a victory as we can,) if the French had been able subsequently to pour in such reinforcements of fresh troops as they could have produced against

against Sir John Moore?—With regard to provisions, the author makes the extraordinary assertion that '*the army was never really in want of them*;' and he contends against the position that they could not be procured, on the ground that the French pursuers were not under this privation: as if he did not know the great pre-eminence of their Commissariat, nor that they could as enemies enforce those supplies which the British as friends could only request, and were refused.

Respecting the abandonment of the artillery if the route to Vigo had been taken, as alleged by Brig. Clinton, the 'British officer' says:

'Here I should be wanting in truth, if I did not broadly state this important and extraordinary fact. When the Commander in Chief ordered the leading columns to march to Santiago, and from thence upon Vigo, it was his intention that the artillery should march direct upon Corunna, while the infantry re-embarked at Vigo: so that we here find, notwithstanding General Clinton's assertion, with regard to the determination not to abandon the artillery, *even under more pressing circumstances*, that the General in Chief had decided to separate it entirely from the army.'

To this statement, as a matter of fact, we cannot reply: but if the first determination were wrong, as it is most severely described to be, shall the General be censured for having seen his error, and corrected it?

It is here asserted 'that the fleet anchored in the Bay of Corunna in the afternoon of the 14th of January; the following day was particularly favourable for our purpose, and yet no steps were taken even for re-embarking horses and baggage, until the morning of the 16th: so that more than thirty hours elapsed before any active measures were taken for the removal of the army.' In Mr. Moore's *Narrative*, however, p. 208, we are expressly told that on the 14th and 15th "the sick, artillery, dismounted cavalry, and horses, were incessantly embarking."

We think that the author of this pamphlet should not have concealed his name; and that, except perhaps for this reason, it required some notice from B. Gen. Clinton.

G.2.

NAVAL AFFAIRS.

Art. 28. *The Young Naval Hero*; or Hints to Parents and Guardians, on the Subject of educating and preparing Young Gentlemen for His Majesty's Navy. 8vo. 2s 6d. Egerton.

From the dedication of these hints, we learn that they are the production of Captain Frederick Watkins, of the navy; and the rank and experience of this gentleman confer on them an *à priori* recommendation, which will be confirmed by the internal evidence of their good sense and propriety. In addition to the suggestions and information, which will prove very useful to all parents and guardians who may design to send their sons or wards to sea, some advice to the young midshipman is subjoined, which it will be highly for his advantage to consult and to follow.

G.2.

RELIGIOUS

RELIGIOUS.

Art. 29. *Sermons for the Use of Families*; selected by James Hews Bransby. 12mo. 2 Vols. 10s. 6d. Boards, Longman and Co.

We cannot more properly convey an idea of these volumes to our readers than in the language of the editor:

'This publication is designed to supply Unitarian Christians with serious impressive discourses, unexceptionable to them in point of religious doctrine, and calculated to assist in forming and strengthening habits of enlightened devotion and active virtue. — Of the sermons which compose these volumes, twelve are selected from works already before the public, and four are now first printed from original manuscripts. These are assigned to their respective authors in the table of contents. The other fourteen are the productions of different dissenting ministers.'

The discourses are generally plain, sensible, and impressive, but perhaps not always sufficiently *plain* for the end proposed. They may, we think, be suitably read in other families than those who chuse to denominate themselves Unitarians, since they contain not much that might be regarded as peculiar to that distinction. While the importance of Divine aid is implied, both for the natural and the spiritual life, the writers perplex themselves somewhat unnecessarily in confining the terms, *Spirit* and *Holy spirit*, to those miraculous gifts and powers, which were diffused in the first ages of Christianity. Hi.

Art. 30. *The Goodness of God acknowledged in Recovery from Sickness*; Two Discourses, by the late Rev. William Turner of Wakefield. 12mo. 1s. Longman and Co.

By permission of the family, Mr. Bransby made these two sermons a part of the two volumes of *select discourses* which are above noticed, but they are here edited separately for more general use. They are devotional and practical, and may be read with advantage in health or in sickness. Hi.

Art. 31. *Two Letters to "A Barrister,"* containing Strictures on his Work in three Parts intitled "Hints to the Public and the Legislature, on the Nature and Effects of Evangelical Preaching." By a Looker on. 8vo. 2s. Black and Co.

We may be allowed to object to the propriety of the signature of this writer, with as much reason as he quarrels with the title of the Barrister's publication; for he is not a mere *Looker-on*, but a Soldier in the ranks, and fights with as much acrimony as any individual in the whole battalion. He charges the opposers of the Evangelical dogmas with '*perverse* ingenuity,' and would affix on the Barrister 'no desirable share of *culpability*,' in addition to dogmatical assurance. We forgive the displeasure which *we* have excited in his breast: but we must ask him whether these epithets should proceed from the pen of an impartial and calm Looker-on?

When this letter-writer confesses that the Evangelical Preachers, 'by a *high-coloured exposition* of their favourite tenets, furnish a shadow of

of plausibility to invidious representations,' he in a great measure abandons the cause which he undertakes to defend; since in this *high colouring* lies the whole subject of the controversy. Let them lower their terms, and bring their exposition within the bounds of definable meaning, and the warfare with them will cease. We have cautiously abstained from taxing the Methodists with immorality; we believe that, as a body, they are not open to the charge; and we have merely adverted to the natural tendency of the doctrine of moral substitution or transfer, and to the 'high colouring' which they often employ in recommending it. The point ought to be decided without the auxiliaries of mutual reviling. Are the expressions in scripture, on which this doctrine is supposed to rest, to be taken literally or figuratively? If literally, the question is at once settled in favour of the Evangelical Preachers: but if this literal acceptation involves an absolute impossibility, we would ask whether the texts which speak of *ransom*, *bearing sin*, &c. must not be explained in a qualified sense? We are as much *Lookers-on* as this letter-writer *can* be, and have no wish that is adverse to *evangelical truth*.

By the tone of confident superiority which this gentleman assumes over the Barrister, in the second letter, by the charge of 'dogmatical assurance,' and by the hint that he is not *artis ratiocinandi magister peritissimus*, we were inclined to suppose that this writer had actually found the Barrister tripping, and was about to win a most complete triumph over him: but we could scarcely avoid laughing when the Looker-on came to exhibit that thundering logic by which his adversary was to be prostrated to the dust. This *magister peritissimus* of the dialectic art adduces the stale and childish argument for *belief without knowlege*, that we are forced to believe many things without knowing any thing of their causation. If, however, he examines this matter, he will find the whole evidence against him. We believe, for instance, the union of the soul with the body, because we know that such an union really subsists: but of the mode or manner of that union we know nothing, and therefore believe nothing. We know again that by an act of volition we can move our limbs, and therefore have no doubt about the fact: but in what way the mind operates on the brain, so as to direct this motion of the limbs, we are ignorant, and *this mode* is consequently beyond the range of faith. The same may be asserted of all those instances which this author adduces. Even the belief of a Deity is in this very predicament. Nature and Revelation point out the necessity of his existence, and this necessity we believe: but the mode and manner of the divine subsistence we have no means of apprehending; and therefore the mode of his existence is not, and never in this world can be, a definite article of faith.

This distinction is necessary to an accurate comprehension of the subject. We defy this writer or any other person to adduce a single fact, either in nature or revelation, to prove the contrary. The apostle Peter (2 Peter i. 5.) clearly intimates the connection between *Knowlege* and *Faith*. Of effects, our knowlege is extensive and our belief in course equally so: but of causes we are much in the dark; and faith is by our total ignorance rendered utterly impossible.

Instead

Instead of reprobating the logic of other men, we advise this writer to review his own mode of reasoning; and then he will not require to be told by us that his pamphlet contains very little which seriously merits a reply. Mo.y

MISCELLANEOUS.

Art. 32. *The Jubilee*; or John Bull in his Dotage. A grand national Pantomime; as it was to have been acted by His Majesty's Subjects, on the 25th of October, 1809. 8vo. 2s. Sherwood and Co.

It is impossible to read with gravity this ludicrous *mélange*, this dramatic chaos; and John Bull is not so much in his dotage, but that he will be able to relish the broad farce of this whimsical piece. The laugh is widely extended; our political characters and political blunders are exhibited in a farcical kind of magic lanthorn, and the very parties caricatured must smile at their own figures on the wall. Our good Monarch is represented in the character of King Lear, looking up to the skies, and saying,

" Here am I, ye gods! a poor old man,
More sinn'd against than sinning!—
Oh! how sharper than a serpent's tooth
It is to have—*a stupid Ministry!*"

Colonel W—d—e, habited as a Piedmontese show-man, introduces his galantie-show:

'Now you shall see Johnny Bull turned into a milch cow, with an udder as big as the cupola of St. Peter's!—Now the Prussian suck, bygar! Now the Austrian suck! Now the Neapolitan suck! Now the Sardinian suck! Now the Portuguese suck! Now the Russian suck! Now the Swede suck! And now, parbleu, they suck her dry, while her own Calves are looking on, in wonder!—All as natural as the life!

A brave galantie show—
A very pretty fancy, *tout nouveau!*"

The author would perhaps say of the morality of this age as Juvenal said of his days,

Quando uberior vitiorum copia! D.o

Art. 33. *A comparative View of the Plans of Education*, as detailed in the Publications of Dr. Bell and Mr. Lancaster. The second Edition, with Remarks on Dr. Bell's "Madras School," and Hints to the Managers and Committees of Charity and Sunday Schools, on the Practicability of extending such Institutions upon Mr. Lancaster's Plan. By Joseph Fox. 8vo. pp. 72. 1s. 6d. Darton and Co. 1809.

The plans both of Dr. Bell and Mr. Lancaster being evident improvements on the usual system of education, the discussion of their respective merits, while it ascertains the portion of commendation due to each, will help to diffuse a knowlege of their importance. For this reason, we were pleased to receive the comparative statement now before us, which fully ascertains the share of invention that belongs to each gentleman. In consequence of some attempts to keep Mr. Lancaster in the back ground, Mr. Fox urges his paramount claims

* The 1st Vol. was reviewed Vol. 56. p 445.
* forgotten at the time of the above article being written; the same extracts being repeat

claims in opposition to Dr. Bell, who is charged with a *jealous* silence respecting the truly comprehensive plan of education *actually carried into effect* by Mr. L. The difference between the first and the last editions of Dr. B.'s pamphlet is duly noticed; and in order to exclude him from the merit of having projected a plan of *national* education, calculated to include *all* the poor, Mr. Fox animadverts on the restricted views of that clergyman: who pronounced "schemes for the universal diffusion of knowlege to be *Utopian*," and intimated that by education the minds of "*those who are doomed to the drudgery of daily labour* would be raised above their condition." This unlucky remark, from the pen of a man who had been employed in extending the benefits of tuition to the miserable *half casts* of India, and had taken merit to himself for having facilitated their instruction, meets with no quarter from Mr. Fox; who asks Dr. Bell whether poor Britons are not as much intitled to the benefits of knowlege, as the out-cast refuse of Asiatic population; or whether South Britons are more likely to have their heads turned by a little education than the natives of North Britain?

Dr. Bell is certainly deserving of much praise for the hints which he has given, in his account of the Madras School: but, in regard to a complete plan of national education, he must concede the palm to Mr. Lancaster, who has done more perhaps than any other individual to spread knowlege with facility and economy among the multitude.

'The improvements in education,' says Mr. Fox, 'which Mr. Lancaster claims as his invention, are:—

'1. That by his system of order and rewards, together with the division of the school into classes, and the assistance of the monitors, ONE MASTER IS ABLE TO CONDUCT A SCHOOL OF ONE THOUSAND CHILDREN. Page 23.

'2. That by printing a spelling-book, or any other lessons for reading, in a large type, upon one side of the paper, and pasting the sheets thus printed, on a pasteboard, they may, when suspended to a nail against the wall, be read by any number of children; a method whereby ONE BOOK WILL SERVE FOR A WHOLE SCHOOL, instead of each child having a book of its own. Page 55.

'3. That by the introduction of writing upon slates, and one boy spelling to his whole class any certain word, the boys in the class will instantly write it, going on in this manner for an hour or more; so that boys may write and spell one hundred words in the course of a morning. A METHOD WHEREBY FIVE HUNDRED BOYS MAY SPELL AND WRITE THE SAME WORD AT THE SAME INSTANT OF TIME. Page 49.

'4. An entire new method of instruction in arithmetic, wholly superseding the former method of setting sums in ciphering-books, or using books, as Walkinghame's, or Dilworth's Assistant for the four first rules. A plan, whereby ANY CHILD WHO CAN READ, MAY TEACH ARITHMETIC with the utmost certainty. Page 62.

'These are inventions concerning which not a syllable is to be found in Dr. Bell's Experiment made at the Male Asylum, Madras.

'5. Another most important circumstance is, that the expence of education is reduced to almost a comparative nothing. Schools for three hundred children may be supported at the expence of seven

shillings per annum each child, and for a greater number of children, the expence may be reduced to four shillings per annum each child. In the case of Mr. Lancaster's own school in the Borough Road, the expence did not exceed three shillings and six-pence per child, for the last year.'

These particulars cannot be too generally known; and the manner in which the author of this comparative view urges the subject is so impressive, that we shall transcribe it:

'I appeal to the benevolence and generosity of my countrymen, whose property and situation in life qualify them for usefulness on behalf of the rising generation. I wish to see an universal attempt made to instil into the minds of youth a sacred regard for the precepts of Divine truth, which can only be effected through the medium of education.

'The ignorance which so much prevails amongst the lower classes of the people, ought to be regarded as a national calamity, and is the great source of that depravity and vitiosity of manners which no serious mind can contemplate without the deepest regret. Schools may be established at a very small expence, and every child may be taught to read the HOLY SCRIPTURES; from which source, and from which source alone, mankind can derive that knowledge which, in this life, will direct them in the paths of morality and virtue, and make them wise unto salvation.

'Persons must judge for themselves as to the particular plan on which they will organize their schools; and, according to their views, adopt the limited plan of Dr. Bell, or the more extended one of Mr. Lancaster. By either method "Knowledge will be increased;" and the anxious desire expressed to Mr. Lancaster, by our VENERABLE MONARCH realized, THAT EVERY POOR CHILD IN THE NATION SHOULD BE ABLE TO READ THE BIBLE *.'

Mr. Fox advocates the cause of Mr. L. against the claims of

'* In the summer of 1805, when the Royal Family were at Weymouth, Mr. Lancaster had the honour of being noticed by his Majesty, and was commanded to wait upon him, in order that he might explain his plans of education. At this interview, which lasted about an hour and an half, were present, the King, the Queen, the Princesses, and the Duke of Kent, Mr. L. related his method of teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic. Their Majesties expressed the most lively interest in the descriptions Mr. L. gave of the business of each class, and made many enquiries as to all the minutiæ of the plan. The King was pleased to encourage Mr. L. to form schools in various parts of the Kingdom; and to assist him in this useful and important work, their Majesties immediately presented him with a considerable subscription, in which they were followed by their Royal Daughters, since then by the Prince of Wales, and the Royal Dukes, and these subscriptions have been regularly paid up to the present year.

'This solicitude of our beloved Monarch for the diffusion of knowledge amongst all ranks of his subjects, ought to operate as a powerful example; and to all those who wish well to the prosperity of the Nation, I would say, "Go ye, and do likewise."

Dr.

Dr. B. with increasing energy, in the subjoined remarks on the fourth edition of Dr. B.'s work; and, in the Hints, the general adoption of *the British plan of education* is urged on the score of its superior comprehensiveness, as well as on the ground of the great saving both of expence and labour which it occasions. We highly applaud the benevolent zeal of this amiable writer. Mo-y.

SINGLE SERMONS *on the Jubilee.*

Art. 34. *The National Jubilee,* celebrative of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Reign of George the Third, politically and morally improved. By a Magistrate. 8vo. pp. 74. 2s. Matthews and Co.

This title affords no indication of a sermon: but, though the author has told "the truth," he has not given "the whole truth," by merely designating himself as a magistrate. We find that he is a Clergyman, as well as a Justice of the Peace; and in the former character, not in the latter, he has presented us with an animated and appropriate exposition of Matth. xxii. 21. in which he has distinctly unfolded the duties which we owe to the civil ruler, and to the King of kings, and has displayed the great importance of *religious principle* to the well-being of the social body. To excite our gratitude for the long life of our beloved Monarch, he compares him with the sovereigns who, from the Conquest, have filled the English throne; directs our attention to the great virtues which adorn his character; and holds him up to the veneration of every loyal subject, 'as *a good, a patriot, and a Christian King.*' To the most liberal and tolerant principles, this clergyman unites a zeal for "the things which are God's," and this part of his discourse is very impressive.—The sermon, we learn, was preached in a small village in Surrey. Do

Art. 35. *The Jubilee; or Motives for Thanksgiving and Congratulation, derived from a Consideration of the Character and Conduct of our Most Gracious Sovereign King George the Third,*—preached in the Chapel of the Foundling Hospital, on Wednesday, Oct. 25, 1809; being the Day on which His Majesty entered on the fiftieth Year of his Reign. By the Rev. John Hewlett, B.D., Morning Preacher to the said Charity, &c. 8vo. 1s. Rivingtons.

After having briefly adverted to the Jubilee year as instituted by Moses among the Jews, to the Secular Games of the Romans, and to the Jubilees of the Romish Church, this preacher proceeds to the occasion specified in the title. In delineating the character of our Sovereign, he will not be suspected of flattery, when he assures us that he 'has little to hope and nothing to fear.' Regarding the virtues and example of the Monarch as a ground of national thanksgiving, he enlarges with satisfaction on the mildness of his government,—on his diligent, regular, and indefatigable attention to the duties of his high station,—on his encouragement of agriculture and the arts,—on his private charater,—and on his reverence for religion. Do

Art. 36. *The Year of Jubilee considered,* in a Discourse delivered at the Unitarian Chapel in Essex-street, on Sunday, October 22, 1809. By Thomas Belsham. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Johnson.

Though this discourse was preached on the Sunday preceding the day of Jubilee, it naturally belongs to this class; and it has peculiar

merit, as it very fully explains the circumstances of the remarkable institution of the year of Jubilee among the Jews. We trace the outlines of this able preacher's explanations in Vol. II. (misprinted in a note Vol. IV.) of Jennings's Jewish Antiquities: but his remarks on the institution of the Jubilee are his own, and are eminently appropriate. Whether the word יובל, whence the word *Jubilee* is derived, signifies *a trumpet*, according to Parkhurst, or *liberty*, according to Josephus, or probably both, it is of little moment to inquire: but the celebration of a Jubilee every fiftieth year (Levit xxv. 10.) in which all debts were forgiven, prisoners and slaves liberated, and all the land was to remain uncultivated for that and the year following, or sabbatical year, is a circumstance which, if strictly observed, must not only occasion famine, but prove highly injurious to the soil, without the intervention of a miracle. Mr. Belsham may probably be right in his conjecture, that the appointment of the Jubilee year was intended to prevent the accumulation of property, so dangerous to civil liberty: but it does not appear that, from the settlement of the Israelites in the land of Canaan to the time of the Babylonish captivity, a single sabbatical or Jubilee year was observed (2 Chron. xxxvi. 21.); and it is hardly possible to conceive how a people could submit to so grievous 'an agrarian law.' By this ordinance, or legislative regulation, it was designed to preserve landed property *in statu quo*: but it is perhaps impracticable in the nature of things to effect this object. At the end of half a century, many families become extinct. It was perhaps discovered that the plan could not, without much confusion, be carried into execution, and it was therefore abandoned. As a typical appointment it is more rational to contemplate this celebration; in which view, it affords Mr. B. an opportunity for many sensible and pious remarks. Mon.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We have certainly hitherto overlooked the publication of which Dr. H. reminds us; and the time which has now elapsed is an objection to the notice of it, unless its contents have a degree of interest and importance which would render the omission of it undesirable.

Mr. Bailey's work will most probably appear in our next number.

The wish of X. Y. will be fulfilled in our next Appendix, to be published with the Review for December.

R. S.'s impatience is natural on his part, but he little knows the extent of our labours, and the obstacles to which they are liable.

The letter signed *Vixen* seems to be very appropriately subscribed. We wish always to be polite to the fair sex, but we acknowlege that we congratulated ourselves that this fair correspondent was *no wife of ours*. She appears as if she would be more inclined to *pick a hole in our coats* than to mend one.

☞ Rev. for October, p. 162. l. 32. *dele* 'though,' before 'it.'

Errata. Pp. 251, 252, 260, 266.